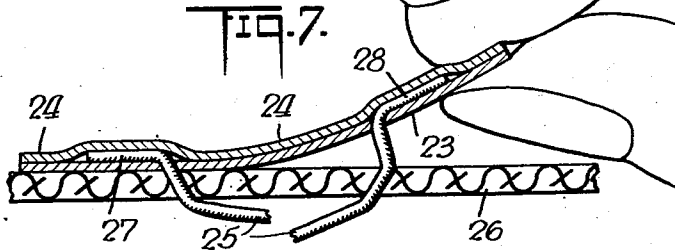
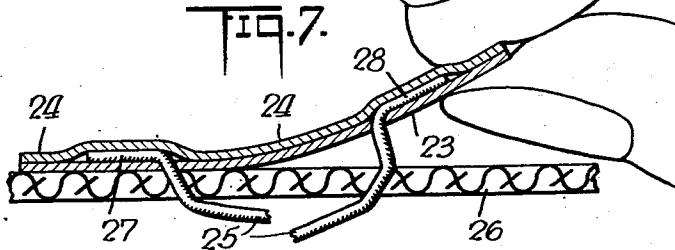
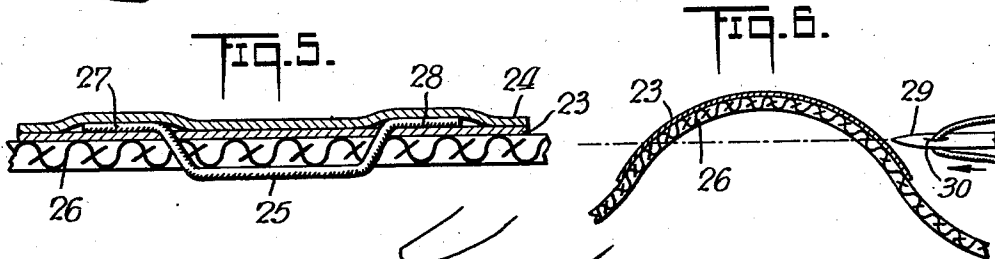
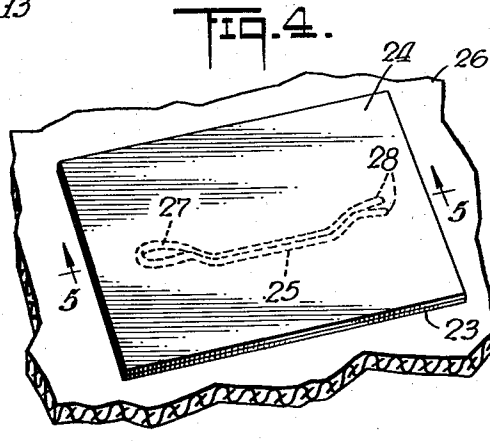
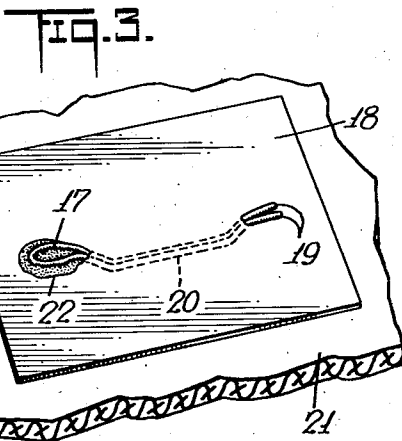
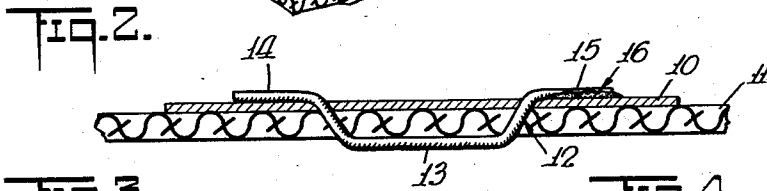
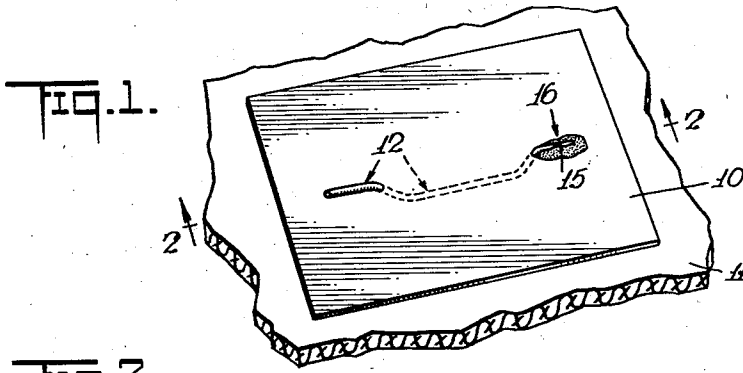


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READILY-REMOVABLE TICKET

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READILY REMOVABLE TICKET

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Our present invention relates generally to certain improvements in the attachment of tickets to fabrics or the like, and has particular reference to a readily-removable ticket of temporary character.

Tickets are attached to fabrics and garments for a variety of purposes, e. g., to identify the ticketed thing, or to convey various kinds of information such as the name of the maker, the size or quality, the price at which it is to be sold, and the like. One important and widely used type of ticket is that which is used in connection with commercial garment manufacturing, tickets being attached to various elements which have been cut from a length of fabric and are intended to be subsequently assembled in the form of a garment. In such case, the purpose of the ticketing is to assure the assembly in the garment of certain particular elements, to avoid difficulties that might otherwise arise because of possible shade variations in the cloth from which the elements have been cut.

In all of the foregoing instances, and in many others of similar character, the ticket is temporary in nature and is intended to be ultimately removed. While the attachment must be firm and reliable as long as it lasts, it must also be of such a nature that removal may be effected easily and expeditiously. In some instances, as in the case of shade-marking tickets, the ticket must be capable of removal with unusual dispatch, since the workman constructing a garment cannot afford to take too much time or care in the removal of the various tickets after the garment has been assembled.

Generally speaking, a ticket of the foregoing temporary character, together with its attaching means, must comply not only with the requirement that it be firmly attached yet readily removable, but for practical purposes the ticket and its mode of attachment must also be very inexpensive, of such a nature that a succession of tickets may be rapidly and feasibly applied by machine, and non-injurious to the fabric. Needless to say, the ticket must also be of such a character that the desired identification or other informational matter may be feasibly imprinted on it.

It is a general object of our invention to provide an improved ticket assembly of the foregoing general character, complying fully with these basic requirements, and manifesting a number of other advantages. Our present improved ticket assembly is of unusual simplicity, it avoids the use of metal and the consequent injury to fabric and worker which sharp metal points or edges may

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cause, it may be attached readily and inexpensively to a fabric of any thickness or character, and it may be expeditiously removed with a minimum of effort. The present ticket relies for attachment upon a thread or threads of flexible character, yet it avoids the necessity for using a sewing machine or otherwise providing a multiplicity of stitches for attaching purposes; and in the preferred embodiment of our invention the threads are completely invisible. Moreover, the present ticket affords an adequate surface for identification or other markings, and in the preferred embodiment this surface is entirely flat and clear; the ticket is irreplaceable once it has been removed, thus avoiding unauthorized tampering or substitution; and the ticket is securely held in a flat constantly-visible position upon the fabric. Where unusually rapid and expeditious removal of the ticket is deemed desirable, the present improvement lends itself readily to the achievement of this result.

A further and particularly desirable advantage of the present ticket assembly lies in the fact that the ticket and the attaching means form an integral unit which assures simultaneous complete removal of all its parts. By proper design of the parts of which the ticket assembly is formed, this removal may be accomplished in a single manipulation which consists in nothing more than grasping the ticket and jerking it from the fabric to which it is attached. Thus, no pieces of thread, either knotted or unknotted, are left for subsequent painstaking removal, the fabric being entirely clean and devoid of any vestige of the ticket or its attaching thread or threads, the instant that the removal is effected.

We achieve the foregoing objects and advantages, and such other general objects and advantages as may hereinafter appear or be pointed out, in the manner illustratively exemplified in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the invention in its simplest form and showing a ticket of the present improved character associated with a piece of fabric;

Figure 2 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken substantially along the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 1 illustrating a modification;

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 3 illustrating the preferred embodiment of our invention;

Figure 5 is a cross-sectional view taken substantially along the line 5—5 of Figure 4;

Figure 6 is a diagrammatic view indicating the preferred mode of performing the attaching operation; and

Figure 7 is a view similar to Figure 5 illustrating one manner of removal of the ticket assembly.

In its simplest form, the ticket may consist of nothing more than a single layer of sheet material 10 which is held flat against the surface of a piece of fabric 11 by means of a flexible attaching element 12. The element 12 may be a thread of cotton or other suitable material, and it will be observed that the medial portion forms a loop 13 back of the face of the fabric and as shown on the underside of the fabric (see Figure 2) while the end portions 14 and 15 extend upwardly through the fabric and through the layer 10, assuming positions on the upper face of the latter. In accordance with our invention, a means is provided for bonding at least one of the ends 14, 15 to the layer 10 so that this layer and the attaching element 12 form a single inseparable unit. We have illustratively shown how this bonding may be effected by means of a mass of glue or adhesive 16 applied to the upper surface of the layer 10 adjacent to and surrounding the end portion 15 of the attaching element 12.

The element 10 may be composed of paper, thin cardboard, or other equivalent inexpensive sheet material, and may have any desired contour, although usually a simple square or rectangular shape is most desirable. The upper face of the element 10 is intended to bear the desired markings, for identification or other purposes.

The fact that the attaching element 12 is integrally bonded to the ticket 10 permits the assembly to be removed in its entirety as a single unit. Under certain circumstances this may be done by simply grasping the ticket at any edge portion thereof and jerking it from the fabric. Where only one end portion of the attaching element is secured to the ticket, as in the embodiment of Figures 1 and 2, the removal of the unit from the fabric 11 is accompanied by a retractive movement of the unattached end portion 14 through the ticket and the fabric so that ultimately all portions of the element 12 except the bonded end 15 lie on the rear or underside of the ticket.

In Figure 3 we have illustrated a modification in which the attaching element consists of a length of thread doubled upon itself so that one of the end portions is a loop 17 lying on the upper surface of the ticket 18, while the opposite end portion of the attaching element consists of the two adjacent ends 19. In this case, as before, the medial portion of the attaching element forms a loop 20 on the underside of the fabric 21. Adhesive is employed to secure one or both of the end portions to the upper face of the ticket 18 and in the embodiment of Figure 3 we have shown a mass of glue or the like 22 associated with the looped end portion 17 to bond the latter firmly and securely to the ticket. This forms a unitary assembly of parts whereby, as hereinbefore described, the mere grasping of the ticket, coupled with a jerking movement away from the fabric 21, may under certain circumstances serve to bring about complete removal of the entire unit.

The preferred embodiment of our invention is illustrated most clearly in Figures 4-7, and it will be observed that we have shown the employment of two superposed layers of sheet material 23 and 24. These layers are adhesively united and a flexible attaching element of the character shown in Figure 3 is associated with the device in such a

way that the medial portion forms a loop 25 on the underside of the fabric 26 while the end portions 27 and 28 extend through the fabric and through the inner layer 23 into sandwiched position between the layers 23 and 24. In this case, as before, one or the other of the end portions 27, 28 is securely bonded to the layers 23, 24 (preferably the looped end portion 27), thus forming a single unit of all the associated elements.

One of the main advantages of the present improvement lies in the simplicity of the operation required to bring about the desired interengagement of ticket, fabric, and thread. It is not necessary to employ a sewing machine of conventional type and mode of operation, nor any equivalent procedure for forming "stitches" in the ordinary sense of the word. A simple reciprocating movement of a simple threading element is all that is required. This will be described in connection with the preferred embodiment of Figure 4, although it will be understood that the advantages referred to are equally applicable to the other constructions shown.

In assembling the parts of Figure 4, the attaching element is first associated with the fabric 26 and with the inner layer 23, as indicated most clearly in Figure 6. This may be conveniently and efficiently accomplished by threading the attachment element through a needle or equivalent element 29 which has an eye 30 at its forward end, this needle being caused to reciprocate in an axial direction while the plies 26 and 23 are retained in a curved condition, as shown. Alternatively, the needle 29 may be curved, while the plies 26 and 23 are held in substantially flat uncurved condition. In either case, the advancement of the needle first causes a penetration through the layer 23 and the fabric 26 to bring the thread to the underside of the latter, and then causes a second penetration through the fabric 26 and the layer 23 to bring the looped end of the fastening element to the upper side of the layer 23. This looped end is then grasped by any suitable mechanism, while the needle undergoes a retractive movement. The thread is then severed by any suitable knife or cutting instrumentality (on the rear side of the needle so that the latter remains threaded), as a result of which the fastening element is in the desired relationship to the fabric 26 and the layer 23. The upper layer 24 is then applied, with the aid of adhesive, thus sandwiching the ends 27 and 28 between the two layers 23 and 24.

While reference has heretofore been made to the bonding of only one end portion of the attaching element, the preferred practice of our invention involves the simultaneous bonding of both end portions. Thus, in Figures 1 and 2, instead of applying adhesive or equivalent bonding material to only the end portion 15, a similar bond is formed between the end portion 14 and the ticket 10. Similarly, in Figure 3, instead of applying the adhesive 22 to only the looped end portion 17, a similar bond is formed between the end portion 19 and the ticket 18. In the two-ply construction of Figures 4-7, both end portions 27 and 28 are bonded to the ticket, and this may be accomplished very readily by the single act of adhesively uniting the layers 23 and 24, since the adhesive which holds these two layers together may serve at the same time to bond both end portions 27 and 28 in sandwiched integrally-united relationship to the resultant assembly.

Where both end portions of the attaching element are thus bonded to the ticket, a single in-

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separable unit is provided which is removable as such from the fabric to which it is attached by severance of the loop on the underside of the fabric. If the attaching element is of adequately low tensile strength, the removal may be achieved as hereinbefore described, by grasping the ticket at any edge portion thereof and jerking it away from the fabric. This results in a severance of the loop 25, as indicated in Figure 7, thus permitting the desired removal to be consummated. Since the two resulting thread portions are firmly bonded to the ticket, the removal procedure leaves no part of the assembly behind it, the entire device retaining its unitary nature despite the severance of the loop 25, and this holds true whether the thread of the loop is torn or deliberately cut.

It will be understood that the ticket may be attached by means of a single attachment element, as shown in the present drawings or by two or more elements, arranged side by side for example. Where a single element is used, the loop is preferably caused to lie beneath the midportion of the ticket so that the latter is always held flat against the fabric. Where two or more attaching elements are used, they are judiciously spaced, preferably in parallel relationship, to achieve the same objective.

In the case where removal of the ticket is to be effected by jerking it from the fabric so as to tear the attaching element, the use of a single element is preferred. Under such circumstances, its arrangement with the medial loop beneath the midportion of the ticket serves not only to hold the ticket flat against the fabric during its period of use, but it also affords a desirable degree of leverage which facilitates the severance of the loop during the act of removal. While the attaching element need not necessarily be of specially weak material, it should of course be composed of a material of relatively low tensile strength. We have found ordinary cotton thread or its equivalent to be satisfactory in most cases.

We have shown the two layers 23 and 24 (Figure 4) as separate elements but it will be understood that they may be doubled-over parts of a single piece of sheet material. The adhesive employed for bonding them together (and for sealing the ends of the attaching element in sandwiched relationship between them) may be independently applied by a brush or equivalent applicator or it may be preliminarily associated with one or the other of the layers 23, 24. In the latter case, the adhesive may be of any suitable type. Thus, while adhesive of the postage-stamp variety may be used, requiring a preliminary wetting before the adhesion is rendered effective, it may under certain circumstances be desirable to employ other types of adhesive material which require nothing but pressure, or possible pressure and heat, to render them effective.

In any case, it will be observed that the outer face of the uppermost layer 24 is available in its entirety for the purpose of such imprinting or other markings as may be desired; while the opposite end portions of the attaching element are securely and firmly bonded between the superposed layers.

Where the attaching element consists of a length of thread doubled upon itself, the looped end (see 27, Figure 4) is admirably adapted to afford a firm anchorage. A similarly secure anchorage is afforded by the opposite end portion (see 28, Figure 4) because of the fact that the two ends of the thread have a tendency to spread so

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that they are individually bonded to the ticket by the adhesive between the two plies.

The two-ply construction affords the further advantage that the individual layers may be thinner than would otherwise be the case, and this simplifies the threading procedure indicated in Figure 6.

The finished assembly is in each case of simple, inexpensive, yet rugged and efficient character. The ticket has a wide expanse of available area for the desired markings thereon, it is held flat against the fabric, it is applicable by a simple mechanism which does not require the relatively complicated interaction of parts embodied in the conventional sewing machine, no knotting is required and no bulky knots are involved in holding the ticket in place, and the removal of the ticket is utterly simple, easy to achieve without any special effort or care, and leaves behind it an entirely clean fabric surface with no vestiges requiring subsequent removal. Moreover, there are no metal or other rigid or sharp parts involved which might injure either the fabric or the workman. No access to the under side of the fabric is necessary either in attaching or removing the ticket, and the attaching loop or loops may extend through one or more layers of fabric, or may be embedded in a single layer as a "blind" stitch, so long as there is sufficient bite of the loop with the fabric to secure the parts with the strength desired and to avoid damaging the fabric when the tag is pulled off.

It will be understood, of course, that the details herein described and illustrated for the purpose of explaining the general nature of the invention may readily be modified in a number of respects by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as expressed in the appended claims. It is therefore intended that these details be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense, except as otherwise set forth in the accompanying claims.

Having thus described our invention and illustrated its use, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. The combination with a piece of fabric, of a readily-removable ticket comprising two superposed adhesively united layers of sheet material, a flexible attaching element securing said ticket to the fabric, the medial portion of said element forming a loop lying beneath the top surface of the fabric upon which the layers of sheet material are superposed while the end portions thereof extend out from the fabric in the direction of and through the inner-layer of sheet material into sandwiched relation between said layers, said attaching element comprising a material of tensile strength sufficiently low to achieve severance thereof by merely jerking said ticket from the fabric.

2. The combination with a piece of fabric, of a readily-removable ticket comprising a layer of sheet material, and a flexible attaching element securing said layer to said fabric, the medial portion of said element forming a loop lying beneath the surface of the fabric upon which the layer of sheet material is superposed, while the end portions of said element extend out from said fabric in the direction of and are adhesively secured to said layer, said attaching element comprising a material of tensile strength sufficiently low to achieve severance thereof by merely jerking said ticket from the fabric.

3. The combination with a piece of fabric, of

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a readily-removable ticket comprising a layer of sheet material, and a flexible attaching element securing said layer to said fabric, the medial portion of said element forming a loop lying beneath the surface of the fabric upon which the layer of sheet material is superposed, while the end portions of said element extend out from said fabric in the direction of and are secured to said layer, said attaching element comprising a length of thread doubled on itself so that one of said end portions comprises a loop, said thread having tensile strength sufficiently low to achieve severance thereof by merely jerking said ticket from the fabric.

4. The combination with a piece of fabric, of a readily-removable ticket comprising two superposed adhesively united layers of sheet material, and a flexible attaching element securing said ticket to said fabric, the medial portion of said element forming a loop lying beneath the surface of said fabric upon which the layers of sheet material are superposed while the end portions thereof extend out from said fabric in the direction of and through the inner layer of sheet material into sandwiched secured relation between said layers, said attaching element comprising a length of thread doubled on itself so that one of said end portions comprises a loop, said thread being of a tensile strength sufficiently low to achieve severance thereof by merely jerking said ticket from the fabric.

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5. The combination with a piece of fabric, of a readily-removable ticket comprising a layer of sheet material, and a flexible attaching element securing said layer to said fabric, the medial portion of said element forming a loop lying beneath the surface of the fabric, upon which the layer of sheet material is superposed, while the end portions of said element extend out from said fabric in the direction of and are adhesively secured to said layer, said attaching element comprising a length of thread doubled on itself so that one of said end portions comprises a loop and having a tensile strength sufficiently low to achieve severance thereof by merely jerking said ticket from the fabric.

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