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E. GRUNWALD

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PERSONALIZED PICTURE PLAYING CARDS

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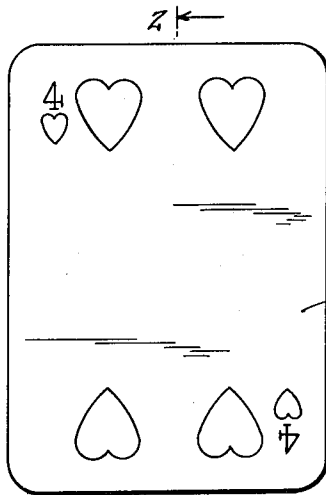


FIG. 1.

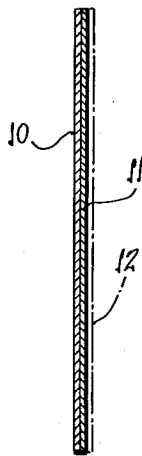


FIG. 2.

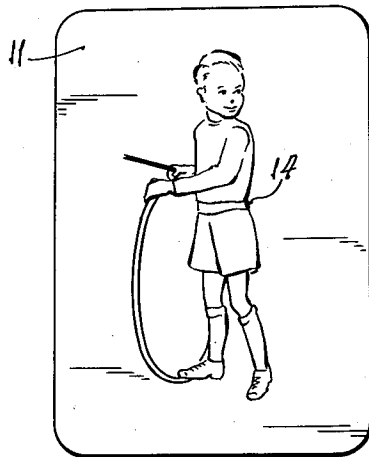


FIG. 3.

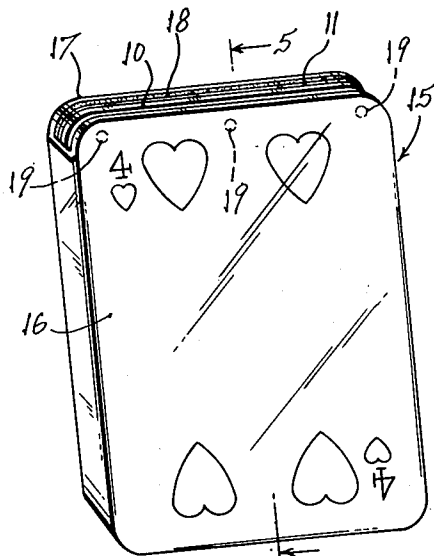


FIG. 4.

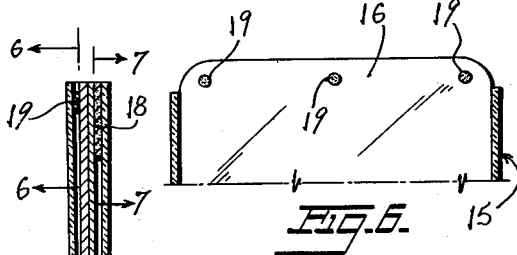


FIG. 5.

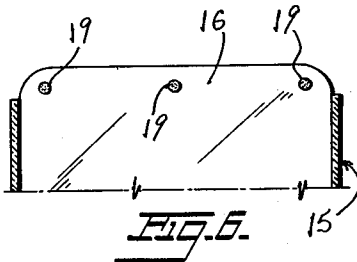


FIG. 6.

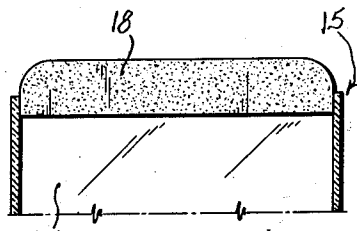


FIG. 7.

INVENTOR.
EDWARD GRUNWALD

BY *Jordan H. Polach*
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PERSONALIZED PICTURE PLAYING CARDS

Edward Grunwald, New York, N. Y.

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3 Claims. (Cl. 206-62)

1

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in playing cards; and, more particularly, the aim is to provide a novel and valuable deck of playing cards characterized by the fact that each of the cards of the deck may readily be individualized, or, more accurately, personalized to the owner of the deck, as by carrying, on the face or on the back of all or some of said cards, a reproduction of the signature of said owner, a picturization of the said owner's home or of himself or of a member of his family, or the like.

According to one way of carrying the invention into practise, a reproduction or picturization of the kind just indicated is effected photographically, as by the owner of the deck of cards following his purchase of said deck.

In the connection immediately above, a feature of the invention is that each of the cards of the deck as manufactured for sale carries on the face and/or back of said card a coating of sensitized material of the kind used in the making of photographic plates and film.

An ancillary object is, in the same connection, to provide a deck of cards each card of which is sensitized as just stated, yet with each card protected against any chance of accidentally permitting said sensitized material to become light struck, even though, nevertheless, said card deck may be used one or more times in playing a card game before making use of said sensitized material to effect photographic transfer to a card of the desired personalizing addition.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 elevationally shows the face of one of the cards of a deck of cards of the conventional four suit kind, with the card thus shown being the four of hearts.

Fig. 2 is a section taken on the line 2-2 of Fig. 1, showing a coating of sensitized material on the back of the card.

Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of said card, after a personalizing addition has been photographically added thereto by utilization of said coating of sensitized material.

Fig. 4 is a view in perspective showing a card in the condition indicated in the case of the card shown in Figs. 1 and 2, with said card in an envelope.

2

Fig. 5 drawn to a scale about twice that of any of the other views, is a section taken on the line 5-5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary section, taken on the line 6-6 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary section, taken on the line 7-7 of Fig. 5.

Referring now to the drawing more in detail, the said card is designated 10; and as the same is herein shown, it has a single coating of sensitized material, with this coating, designated 11, on the back of the card.

In the embodiment illustrated, said coating 11 constitutes an important part of the means whereby each card of the deck is to carry permanently, and by photographic transfer (as from a photographic negative in the possession of the owner) a personalizing addition in the form of a reproduction of the owner's signature or a picturization of an appropriate kind. Some but not all of the possible picturizations have been already mentioned herein.

The said personalizing addition is obtained, in the case of each card of the deck, by a procedure which involves placing over said coating 11 a photographic negative (as indicated at 12 in Fig. 2) carrying the personalizing matter desired to be added to the card; subjecting these parts 11 and 12 to a sufficient light exposure to effect a photographic transfer from the negative 12 to the coating 11; separating the negative from the card; developing the coating 11; fixing the image so developed, as the one shown at 14 in Fig. 3, and then washing and drying the card. Said image is illustrated as the photograph of a little daughter of the owner of the deck.

Thus, when this procedure is completed, as to all the cards of the deck, a deck is finally had all the different cards of which have identical backs, as is usual and necessary so that the suits and values of the different cards cannot be detected merely from looking at the card backs, yet each of said cards is personalized according to the invention.

It is to be noted that in carrying the invention into practise, the sensitized coating may be on the face of a card, so that the face of the card may carry the personalized addition. In such case, the backs of the cards will be made identical in any suitable manner, as by having all of said backs plain, as of a solid color, or by having them all carry the same geometrical, floral or other design. The picture may be of either black and white or colored photographs or paintings.

Also, in carrying out the invention, all the cards of the deck may have identical backs, with

3

this similarity of the backs resulting from making them all plain, or all of one color, or all having the same design, or all having added thereto an initial corresponding to that of the owner of the deck, or all carrying the same photographically transferred addition pursuant to the invention, and, at the same time, the faces of the cards may carry photographically transferred additions, pursuant to the invention, with each of these last named additions, for example, different in the case of the cards of different suits, but with all of them, also, pursuant to the invention, personalized to the owner of the deck of cards. Any such personalized addition will be referred to as a personalized indicium.

After making the cards themselves, as, for instance, the deck of cards one of which is that shown in Figs. 1 and 2, said deck is finally prepared for marketing by packaging the same in a way to protect the sensitized coatings on the cards from becoming light struck pending photographic transfer thereto of the personalizing indicia. Desirably, the deck is thus packaged by placing each card in an envelope such as the one illustrated at 15 in Figs. 4 through 7.

Said envelope, it will be noted, is an open top sack having two side walls 16 and 17, with each wall of the same shape and size as the card 10. These walls, like said card, have rounded corners of very small radius; and, with said walls joined suitably all along their bottoms and all along both sides up to small roundings corresponding to the two rounded corners at an end of the card, the sack 15 would be light-tight (except at its open top) if made of opaque material. Accordingly, said sack is made opaque all over, except at a transparent area of the wall 16, this area being sufficiently large and being suitably placed to expose therethrough the suit and value indications of the face of the card. The sack 15 is desirably made of a very thin highly flexible material such as Pliofilm, cellophane or the like.

A coating 18 of adhesive is extended band-like across the top of the wall 17 at the inner side thereof; and three spots 19 of said adhesive are spaced across the top of the wall 16 at the inside of said wall.

The adhesive desirably used is one of the well known kinds, which is normally tacky, adherent consequent upon application of slight pressure, and releasable by slight pull.

Following insertion of a card into its said envelope 15, with the sensitized back of the card facing the wall 17, the item is completed for merchandising by effecting a rubbing stroke under pressure against the outer side of said wall 17 opposite to and along the direction of extension of the adhesive coating 18. By this simple single step, the interior of the envelope 15 is sealed off across its top thereby to insure that no light can strike the sensitized coating 11; and at the same time the wall 16 is attached to the face of the card at points corresponding to the locations of the three adhesive spots 19.

With all the cards of the deck thus individually enveloped, the deck of cards may be used for the playing of any desired number of games;

4

and then, when the owner of the deck is ready to effect the desired photographic transfers of personalized indicia to the different cards, these may be removed one by one from their envelopes for the purpose of making said photographic additions. Removal from a card 10 of its envelope 15 is easily and quickly accomplished in a darkroom or like place; as, following insertion of a spatula or the like into the space between any two of the adhesive spots 19, all said spots may be readily separated from the card by pull on the upper end of the wall 16, after which the envelope may be expeditiously ripped off the card, with separation of the adhesive band 18 away from the card the last effected occurrence.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

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

1. The combination of a light sensitized playing card and envelope comprising, a playing card containing a light sensitive coating on one side thereof, and an envelope including an opaque wall and an opposite transparent wall, said card being received in the envelope with the light sensitive side adjacent said opaque wall, and a layer of adhesive across the top of said opaque wall and secured to said card to prevent entry of light therein.

2. The combination of claim 1 wherein the transparent wall includes spaced spots of adhesive to temporarily secure the card in the envelope, said spots being readily separated from the card when the envelope is to be removed.

3. The combination of claim 1 wherein the walls of the envelope have rounded corners so that when the envelope is closed it is light-tight.

EDWARD GRUNWALD.

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