Dec. 31, 1940. G. I. GOLDWYN 2,226,855

METHOD OF TREATING USED BAGS

Filed Feb. 11, 1939

Fig. 1.

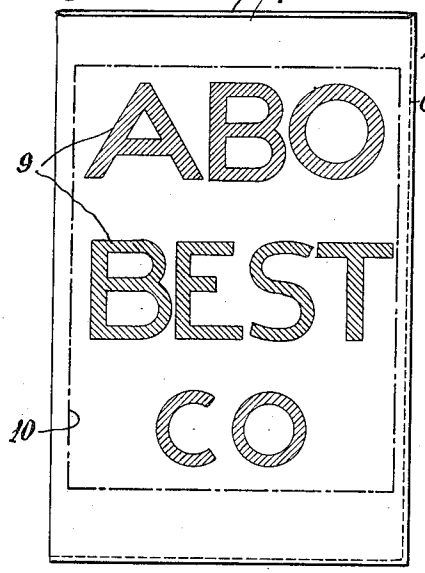


Fig. 3.

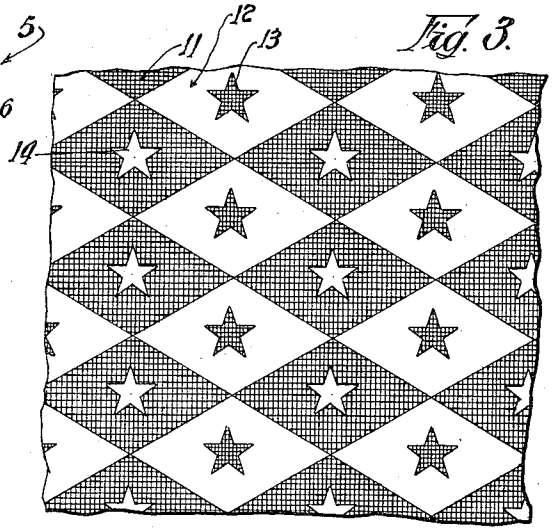


Fig. 2.

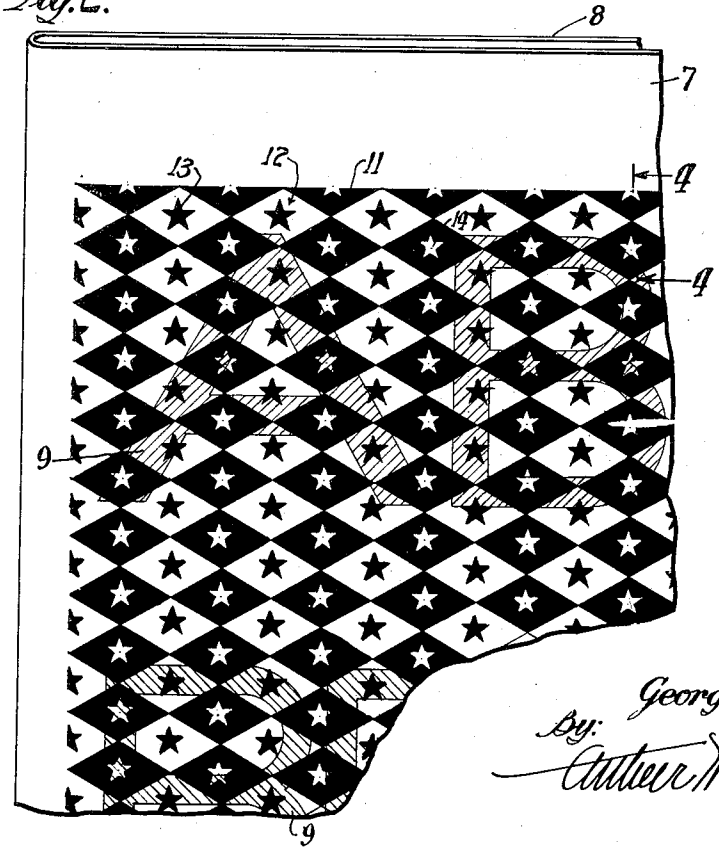
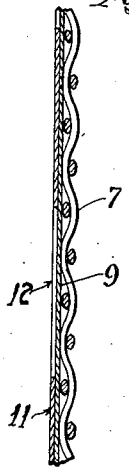


Fig. 4.



Inventor:
George I. Goldwyn,
By: Arthur Mc Gilvra
Attorney.

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METHOD OF TREATING USED BAGS

George I. Goldwyn, Chicago, Ill., assignor to George I. Goldwyn and Herman Goldwyn, both of Chicago, Ill., copartners doing business under the name and style of Goldwyn Brothers

Application February 11, 1939, Serial No. 255,901

3 Claims. (Cl. 101—426)

This invention relates to improvements in used bags and the method of treating the same and it consists of the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

The used bags with which the present invention is more especially concerned, are bags made of textile material such as burlap and having characters printed upon one or more of the outer surfaces of the walls thereof.

In many instances new burlap bags are printed in so-called "burlap bag ink" with certain characters upon at least the outside of one of the walls thereof and which characters generally denote the contents of the bag, the name of the manufacturer and original shipper; and usually certain grade and trade marks. Often after one use, such bags were disposed of and heretofore were not again used as bags in commerce.

In many instances such used bags were capable of reuse without patching or darning but the trade would not accept them because of the characters showing thereon. When such used bags required cleaning, patching or other operations, fitting them for reuse, they were turned inside out and then rebound along two margins and thereafter reprinted with characters to suit the requirements of the purchaser. However, used bags are sometimes capable of even a third and a fourth reuse as bags in commerce but the characters appearing on the bag detracted from their salability. The use of such bags with legible characters thereon might be considered as unfair in a competitive sense by the original purchaser and user of the bag and would be otherwise objectionable.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide a simple, efficient and economical method of treating used printed bags, by rendering the printed characters thereon illegible without requiring turning the bag inside out.

Another object of the invention is to provide a method of treating bags which consists in printing over that area containing the characters, an open work design which coacts with said characters in producing a variegated composite arrangement of characters and design which makes the characters substantially illegible.

A further object of the invention is to provide a used bag having characters thereon which have been rendered illegible by the overprinting of an openwork design thereupon.

The above mentioned objects of the invention, as well as others, together with the advantages thereof will more fully appear as the specification proceeds.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a view in elevation of a burlap bag having characters thereon and which may be treated in accordance with one phase of the invention to render said characters substantially illegible without turning the bag inside out.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view in elevation on an enlarged scale, showing a portion of the bag after treating the same to make the characters substantially illegible.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view in elevation on a further enlarged scale, showing one form of open work design which when overprinted upon a bag wall having characters thereon, efficiently coacts with said characters in producing a variegated composite of characters and design that makes the characters substantially illegible.

Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view on a further enlarged scale through one of the walls of a burlap bag treated in accordance with the invention, the plane of the section being indicated by the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Referring now in detail to that embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawing, 5 indicates as a whole, a used bag originally made from a strip of burlap folded upon itself and stitched along two right angled sides as at 6. Such a bag which is open at the top and closed along the bottom and both sides, includes front and rear walls 7 and 8 respectively.

New bags of this kind are usually printed upon one wall to suit the original purchaser and shipper with characters 9 denoting the contents and other matters relating thereto, as well as firm name, grade and trade marks. Such characters are usually arranged in horizontal lines across the bag wall and within a certain area of said bag wall and which area is indicated by the dotted rectangle 10 in Fig. 1. In some instances certain of the characters are printed in different colors as appears in Fig. 1 and the ink employed in such printing is known as "burlap bag ink."

After the original use, in many instances, a bag will remain in such good condition that it is capable of reuse, but it is not favorably received by purchasers and users of used bags. The reason therefor is that the appearance of said characters 9 upon said bags may be considered as unfair practice in a competitive sense. Also such characters are otherwise objectionable.

When such bags are torn or worn, certain establishments reclaim the same by turning the bags inside out and cleaning them, patching,

darning and often rebinding the same. When turned inside out, in many instances the characters do not appear through the wall so that they may be reprinted to meet the requirements of the user.

However, when the discarded used bag is in good condition, when treated in accordance with one phase of the invention, which does not require that the bag be turned inside out, the characters are rendered illegible by what I term an "overprinting" in a manner other than by the use of a solid "blockout" over the entire area occupied by said characters.

In accordance with one phase of the invention, I overprint upon the area 10, an open work design embodying elements so arranged as to require only about half the ink necessary for a solid "block out" of said area and which design elements are of such configuration as to coact with the characters themselves in producing therewith a variegated composite which renders said characters undecipherable and substantially illegible and indeed to produce an effect making it almost appear as though the bag did not contain obliterated characters.

In Fig. 3 I have shown an open work design in the form of a checkered diamond arrangement wherein there are intermediate and alternate vertical and horizontal rows of diamond shaped design elements 11 and 12 respectively. The elements in the rows 12 are left devoid of ink except for the use of a sub-element 13, printed in the same color as the main body of the elements 11. Preferably each sub-element has a shape different from that of the design element in which it is centrally located. A star shape serves exceptionally well for the sub-element as its outlines are arranged at many different angles to the outlines of the characters upon which the design is superposed by overprinting.

The elements 11, as here shown, are each made in solid color except for a sub-element 14 which is blank or devoid of such color. Such sub-elements likewise are made star shaped and arranged centrally in associated design elements 11. It is apparent that with such an open work design disposed upon a certain area that only one-half the ink is required to produce that design covering said area as would be required for a solid "block out" covering said area. It is preferred that the color employed for said design be "black" as black has the best covering quality and costs less than other colors in burlap bag ink but other colors having good covering characteristics may be used if desired.

Fig. 2 shows the design of Fig. 3 overprinted upon the area 10 so that in part it is superposed upon the characters 9. By reason of the diamond shaped design elements, with the star shaped sub-elements and by the alternate and intermediate row arrangement mentioned, it is apparent that the outlines of said elements and sub-elements are substantially all in non-parallel relation with respect to the outlines of the characters so that the outlines of said elements and sub-elements coact with the lines of the characters in producing a variegated composite arrangement which makes the characters completely broken up and undecipherable and substantially illegible and wherein they cannot be readily disassociated from the design. Hence the lettering appears practically as a part of the design.

Such an overprinted bag, if desired may be reprinted with other characters upon the opposite side wall of the bag, according to the demand of the purchasers for reuse in commerce and after reuse by said purchaser may again be overprinted as before and used for other commodities in commerce.

By the improved method the bag may be overprinted for reuse at least three times after the original use and therefore the usefulness or life of the bag is materially increased.

The improved method of treating the used bags is economical in the use of ink and makes it possible to obtain more use from bags heretofore considered only as waste.

While in describing the invention I have referred in detail to the form and arrangement of certain parts and steps and sequence thereof, the same is to be considered only in the illustrative sense so that I do not wish to be limited thereto except as may be specifically set forth in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. The method of superficially obliterating indicia on printed bags and the like comprising imprinting on the said indicia an open work design having alternate blank and colored areas with the colored areas having blank centers and the blank areas having solid centers.

2. The method of treating bags having characters disposed upon an area of one side of the walls thereof, which consists in applying a coloring material in the form of an open work design having alternately colored and blank sections to portions of said area so that it coacts with said characters in producing a variegated composite arrangement of coloring material and the characters, the characters showing through the blank sections of the design and rendering the characters substantially illegible.

3. The method of treating bags having indicia disposed upon an area of one side of the walls thereof, which consists in superficially obliterating said indicia in part and comprising imprinting an open-work design composed in part of coloring material and in part of blank areas, portions of the indicia being visible at least in part in the blank areas of the design, thereby cooperating with the design in producing a variegated composite rendering the indicia substantially illegible.

GEORGE I. GOLDWYN.