March 12, 1929. J. B. GREGG 1,705,289

CONTAINER

Filed Oct. 7, 1926

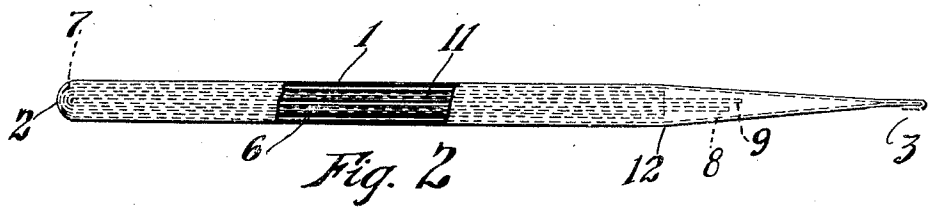



Fig. 2

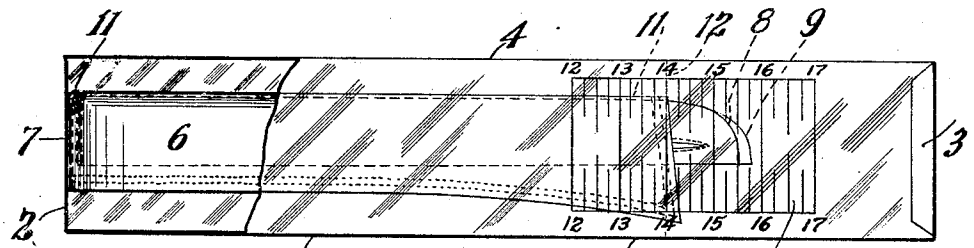



Fig. 1

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Patented Mar. 12, 1929. 1,705,289

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CONTAINER.

Application filed October 7, 1926. Serial No. 139,965.

My invention relates to containers and more particularly to that type of containers and envelopes in which collars, bow-ties and various other articles whch are made up in different sizes are put out by manufacturers and sold to the trade and the public.

To illustrate my invention I shall specifically describe the same in its application to the collar industry, although it is to be distinctly understood that it is capable of being used in connection with many articles, in addition to collars, which are made up in different sizes, especially those made up in different length sizes, such as dress and bow-ties, belts, etc.

Collars, and particularly soft and the so-called semi-soft collars are manufactured in great quantities and sold to the trade and at retail in individual containers or envelopes. These envelopes are in general long and narrow and are made of suitable cheap flexible materials, usually of paper where opaque envelopes are desired, and of the material known as "glassine" where transparent envelopes are desired. Window envelopes, that is, envelopes whch are formed mostly of opaque materal, but which are provided with transparent portion or windows, might also be employed for this purpose. The envelopes are open at one end only where each is usually provided with a loose flap, and the collars after being folded lengthwise upon themselves with the inner surfaces of the folded portions thereof opposed, are inserted into their individual envelopes through the said open ends. The operation of placing the collars in the envelopes in a factory is performed by employees who do nothing else. The collars are provided with their size numbers or designations only on the inner surfaces of the neckbands thereof, while the envelopes or containers for the collars bear no designations whatever of the collar sizes. It is the custom at collar factories in placing the collars in their envelopes to handle only collars of one size during a certain period of time, then to change to collars of another size, and so on. The collars with the envelopes into which they have been placed during such a period are packed into boxes or receptacles for shipment to the trade, generally in lots of a dozen collars to the box. These boxes bear on the outside the size number or designation of the collars packed therein. In order for a retailer of collars properly to serve his customers and to keep track of his stock, it is obviously essential that the various boxes for the collars which make up the retailer's stock shall at all times contain only collars of the sizes corresponding to the respective size numbers appearing on the boxes. Much time is wasted by retailers, especially those doing a large business, in securing this result, for in the course of serving his customers, collars of various sizes become scattered over a busy retailer's counters, and because of the fact that the collar envelopes or containers bear no designation of the collar sizes, it is necessary before each such collar can be replaced in its proper box to remove the collar from its envelope, to then unfold the collar to ascertain its size and to then refold the same and return it to its envelope. Collar manufacturers appreciate this trouble and annoyance which retailers experience and recognize the fact that it would be highly desirable for the purpose of avoiding the same to have the individual collar envelopes or containers referred to, respectively bear designations of the sizes of the collars contained or placed therein. However, such manufacturers have found it to be impracticable in putting up their collars for shipment, to place the same in envelopes or containers marked with or bearing the respective size numbers or designations of the collars, because of the confusion which would result in the method by which this operation is necessarily performed and the additional expense which would be incurred due to the need of additional employees. Such method necessitates the use of envelopes which are uniform for all sizes of collars, and heretofore, in so far as I am aware, no envelope of the character described, has been designed which enables one to expeditiously ascertain the size of any collar or like article which may be disposed therein.

The principal object of my invention is to provide an improved container or envelope of the character described which enables the size of any sized collar or other like article when disposed therein, to be quickly and readily ascertained without removing the same from such container or envelope, and which therefore renders it possible to use envelopes which are in every way identical for collars or the like of different sizes, and at the same time avoid the above noted trouble and annoyance now experienced by retailers of such articles.

My invention as applied to envelopes or containers for soft and semi-soft collars, is based in part on the facts that such envelopes

as now supplied to collar manufacturers are of uniform size and accurately made and that each collar before being placed in its individual envelope, is folded lengthwise upon itself with the transverse fold thus formed therein exactly midway between the ends of the body portion of the collar, this folding operation being very quickly and accurately performed by automatic machinery. More specifically described my invention as designed for use with collars, resides in providing such an envelope with a suitable scale visible from without, the calibrations or graduations of the scale corresponding to the various sizes in which collars are made and the scale being so arranged and calibrated with respect to the closed end of the envelope, that when the folded collar occupies a position within the envelope in which the transverse fold midway between the ends of the body portion thereof engages said closed end, a certain well-defined point of the collar remote from said transverse fold, and preferably either end of the longitudinal fold or top edge of the body portion thereof, will register with that calibration or graduation of the scale corresponding to the size of the collar. If the envelope is transparent or that portion thereof bearing the scale is transparent, the size of the said collar can then be observed directly, and if the envelope is opaque the size can be determined merely by bending the material of the envelope about one end of the longitudinal fold or top edge of the body portion of the collar, and the bend thus formed will occur at or coincide with that graduaton of the scale corresponding to the size of the collar.

Further objects and features of my invention will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In order that my invention may be more clearly understood, attention is directed to the drawing accompanying and forming a part of this specification, and in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view partly broken away, of a transparent collar envelope or container in accordance with my invention, with a folded collar disposed therein; and

Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation of an envelope similar to that shown in Fig. 1, except that it is opaque, looking toward the side edge corresponding to the edge 4 of the envelope of Fig. 1, a folded collar being positioned in the envelope in engagement with the closed end of the latter and the envelope being shown as bent about an end of the longitudinal fold or top edge of the main body portion.

Referring to the drawing the envelope 1 is rectangular in shape, long and narrow, and has the one end 2 closed and the opposite end open and provided with a loose folded flap 3. The envelope is also closed at its opposite side edges 4 and 5. The envelope shown in Fig. 1 is formed of suitable and preferably flexible transparent material, such as "glassine" and has therein a soft or semi-soft collar 6 folded on itself, the transverse fold 7 produced by so folding the collar being midway of the ends of the main body-portion thereof. Reference characters 8 and 9 represent the end tabs of the collar which project from the respective ends of the main body or neck-band portion thereof. The closed end 2 of the envelope constitutes an abutment for the collar 6 at the fold 7 thereof, and the collar which is disposed loosely in the envelope, may readily be positioned with the said fold so engaging the abutment as by shaking the envelope or by tapping the closed end thereof when held in a more or less upright position, against the palm of the hand, or other surface. The envelope is provided adjacent the open end thereof with a scale 10 visible from the outside, this scale being graduated in the length sizes in which collars, or in the sizes in which any other articles for which the envelope may be designed, are made. The scale 10 is so positioned and calibrated with respect to the closed end 2 that when the collar or other article occupies a position in engagement with the abutment or closed end 2, a certain edge or well defined point of the article remote from said closed end, in the case of the collar 6 shown each end of the longitudinal fold 11 in the main body portion thereof, will exactly register with that graduation of scale 10 corresponding with the size of said article. Accordingly when the envelope 1 is of transparent material, as in Fig. 1, the size of the article may then be immediately ascertained merely by observing the point of graduation of the scale when this registration occurs. If the envelope is of opaque material, however, the size of the article is then ascertained by merely folding the material of the envelope about a definite point or edge of the article remote from the closed end 2, in the case of the collar 6 about one end of the longitudinal fold 11 formed in the main body portion thereof, as shown in Fig. 2; and the line of the resulting bend, indicated at 12 in Figs. 1 and 2 will coincide with that graduation of scale 10 corresponding with the size of the article. When the envelope is of transparent material or that portion thereof bearing the scale is transparent, the size of the collar or other article disposed therein may, of course, also be ascertained in the same manner as that just described in connection with the envelope formed of opaque material. It is to be noted that while collars are made in ¼ inch sizes, the space between the graduations of the scale 10 on an envelope embodying my invention and designed for collars, should be ⅛ of an inch, this because of the fact that each collar is folded on itself before being placed in its envelope.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that my invention enables manufacturers of collars or like articles to use envelopes or containers for such articles which are in every way identical and uniform for all sizes of these articles, without the disadvantages above set forth, which result from the use of envelopes of this type heretofore employed.

It is to be understood that the specific forms of my improved envelope or container shown and described herein, are subject to various changes and modifications without departing from the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claims.

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

1. A container for an article made in different sizes, said container having applied thereto a scale adapted when any such article occupies a certain position within the container to cooperate with the article to indicate from without the container the size of such article.

2. A container for an article made in different sizes, said container having a closed end and a scale so applied thereto as to be adapted when any such article occupies a position in the container in which it engages said end, to cooperate with the article to indicate from without the container the size of such article.

3. A container for an article made in different sizes, said container being formed of flexible material and having an abutment and a scale, the scale being so calibrated and so positioned relative to said abutment that when any such article occupies a position within the container in which it engages said abutment and the container is then bent about a certain edge of the article remote from the abutment, the bend so formed occurs at that calibration of said scale corresponding to the size of said article.

4. A container for an article made in different sizes, said container having an abutment and a transparent portion provided with a scale, the scale being so calibrated and the transparent portion and scale being so positioned relative to said abutment that when any such article occupies a position within the container in which it engages said abutment, a definite point in the article remote from the abutment will be visible through the said transparent portion and will register with that calibration of the scale corresponding to the size of said article.

5. A flexible container for an article made in different sizes, said container having an open end through which such an article is adapted to be inserted into the container and having its opposite end closed, the container also having a scale visible from without the container, the graduations of such scale being calibrated with respect to such closed end in the sizes in which said article is made.

6. A container for an article made in different sizes, said container having an open end through which such an article is adapted to be inserted into the container and having its opposite end closed, the container also having a transparent portion provided with a scale, said scale being visible from without the container and having its graduations calibrated with respect to said closed end in the sizes in which said article is made.

This specification signed this 29th day of September, 1926.

JOSEPH B. GREGG.