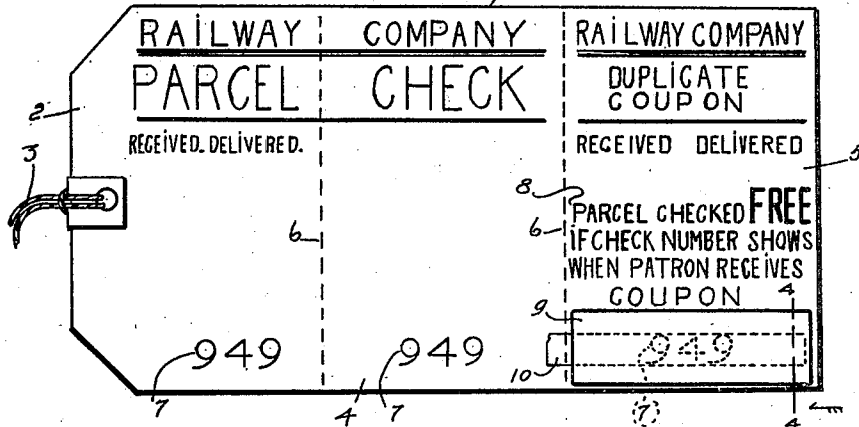


1,402,178.

Fig. 1.



A diagram of a shipping label with a coupon stub. The label is rectangular with a notch on the left side. The word "STUB" is printed vertically on the left side. Below it, the text "THIS STUB IS TO BE ATTACHED TO PARCEL." is written. To the right of this text is a dashed line labeled "6". Further right is another dashed line labeled "4". To the right of the "4" line is the word "COUPON" printed vertically. To the right of the "COUPON" line is a dashed line labeled "12". To the right of the "12" line is a dashed line labeled "15". To the right of the "15" line is a dashed line labeled "14". To the right of the "14" line is a dashed line labeled "6". To the right of the "6" line is a dashed line labeled "13". To the right of the "13" line is a dashed line labeled "5". The label is divided into three sections by these dashed lines. The top section is labeled "INFORMATION". The middle section is labeled "CONTRACT". The bottom section is labeled "RATE".

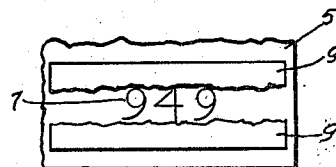


Fig. 3.

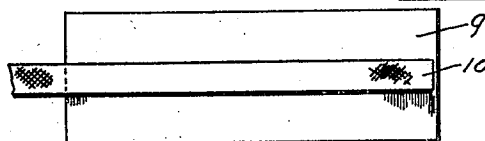
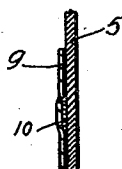
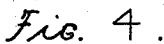


Fig. 5.

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CARL TAYLOR PETTY, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

PARCEL CHECK.

1,402,178.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 3, 1922.

Application filed December 2, 1920. Serial No. 427,857.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CARL TAYLOR PETTY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Parcel Check, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to parcel checks and particularly to a device of this character which is used for checking parcels, baggage and packages, and the object of the invention is to provide a parcel check having a claim coupon which is not re-usable without self disclosed evidence of its prior use.

I attain this object and other advantages by means of the device and combination of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which—Figure 1, is a plan view of the front side of a parcel check embodying my invention; Figure 2, is a plan view of the reverse side of the same; Figure 3, is a plan view of the reverse side of the sticker for secreting the serial number of the claim coupon and showing the ribbon thereon for tearing the sticker to expose the serial number, a part of my invention, Figure 4, is a cross section of the sticker, on the line 4—4, in Figure 1, and Figure 5, is a view of used coupon.

Similar numerals of reference refer to corresponding parts throughout the several views.

The numeral 1, designates a parcel check having integral therewith the customary stub 2, provided with a cable 3, by which the stub is tied to the parcel checked, a coupon 4, and a claim coupon 5, the coupons being separable from the stub and from each other, on the scored or indented lines 6. The stub, the coupon, and the duplicate coupon or claim coupon, bear the name of the company using the parcel check, and also bear a serial number identically the same, as is shown at 7, in Figure 1. On the coupon 5, and covering the serial number thereon, in this instance, the numerals 949, a sticker 9, is affixed in such a manner that the serial number on the coupon shall not be visible. A ribbon 10, is arranged longitudinally of the sticker, on the lower side thereof, so that the ribbon shall be disposed over the serial number to further prevent observation thereof until and after the ribbon shall have been torn from the sticker. The sticker is made of any suitable opaque material, preferably,

tinted gummed paper differentiating from the tint of the coupon. The ribbon 10, is affixed on the lower side of the sticker, the lower side of the ribbon being free of the coupon. The ribbon 10, is made of any suitable material, preferably, cotton or silk fabric. When the sticker is affixed to the coupon the portions thereof at the sides of the ribbon adhere to the coupon, leaving the ribbon over the serial number but free of the body of the coupon.

On the reverse side of the stub 2, is a space reserved for instructions, as shown at 11. On the reverse side of the coupon 4, is a space 12, reserved for printed rules and, on the reverse side of the duplicate or claim coupon is reserved a space 13, for information data, then a space 14, for contract conditions, and then a space 15, reserved for rates for checking service.

It is my understanding that parcel checks are frequently used again by employees and the revenue collected thereby appropriated to their own use. It is difficult to detect such unauthorized use of parcel checks because the check generally used in the parcel checking business is not provided with any device or arrangement to evidence prior use.

The claim coupon of the parcel check embodying my invention is arranged to disclose positive evidence of prior use after the check has been used once, which self disclosed evidence may be readily observed by any person inspecting the issuing of claim coupons by the employee. The parcel checks are issued to the employee for use in the checking business, each check having an exposed serial number on its stub portion and a like serial number on the coupon portion but completely concealed from view, the strip 9, and the ribbon 10, being so arranged to prevent a view of the hidden number. When a parcel is received the employee detaches the stub portion of the parcel check and attaches the same on the parcel and then separates the coupons 4 and 5, issuing the latter coupon to the patron and depositing the former coupon for return to the auditor together with the redeemed coupon 5, at the close of the day's business, to accompany the daily report of transactions. When the parcel is claimed and the claim coupon is presented, the employee tears away a longitudinal section of the cover 9, by pulling on the ribbon 10, thereby exposing the serial number on the coupon, the residue of the cover

remaining affixed to the body of the coupon, at opposite sides of the serial number, as is shown in Figure 5. When the parcel is identified and delivered to the claimant, the defaced or torn coupon is deposited for return to the auditor, as before explained.

If, after prior use, the employee again issues the claim coupon the exposed serial number thereon and the destroyed cover 9, will serve to indicate to any person interested in knowing, that the coupon has been used before, and that the employee is transacting business irregularly. Any one or more of such transactions may be noted by inspectors and the daily report may be examined to see if other than regular transactions appear thereon. If claim coupons are repaired and again issued by the employee with the serial number hidden, the fact will be made known to the examiner of the returned coupons by the appearance of remnants of the counterfeit cover adhering to the original cover. If the claim coupon should be presented with the serial number exposed and the parcel claimed, the employee may nevertheless receive it but, if the coupon is issued with the serial number exposed and the cover mutilated, the fact of prior use is thereby disclosed. Should the used claim coupon be issued again with a counterfeit cover it would be noticeable at the checking stand and also at the auditor's office.

The advantage of a parcel check embodying my invention is the provision of means on the claim coupon for disclosing evidence of prior use which is visible and readily observable thereby making it possible to detect irregular and fraudulent re-use of parcel checks by employees to collect revenue for themselves. The cover 9 functions to normally completely conceal the serial number on the claim coupon portion when the latter is first regularly issued and to bear evidence of prior use or issue if the cover is torn and the serial number exposed at time of its issue.

Having described my invention what I claim is—

In a parcel check coupon bearing a serial number, the combination with the coupon of a seal affixed on the coupon and arranged thereon to completely hide the serial number from view, said seal comprising a textile ribbon adapted for completely hiding from view the serial number and a gummed paper affixing portion affixed on the upper side of the ribbon and affixed on the coupon to hold the ribbon free of the coupon and in place over the serial number.

Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 29, 1920.

CARL TAYLOR PETTY.

Witnesses:

HENRY STUBENRAUCH,
JOHN E. HOFFMAN.