Sept. 25, 1951 M. L. BOLING 2,568,786

ENVELOPE

Filed Jan. 31, 1949

FIG. 1.

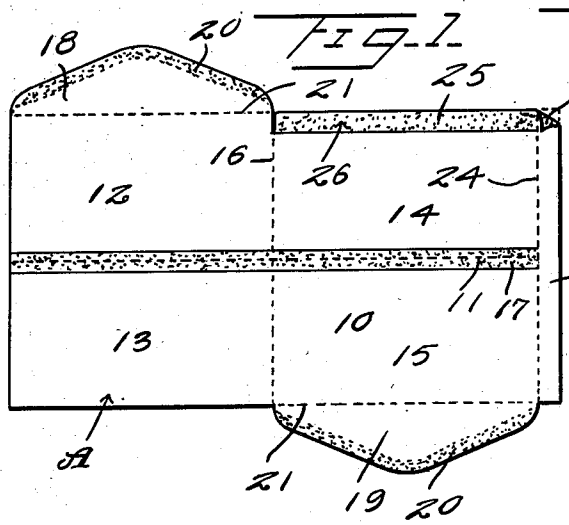


FIG. 2.

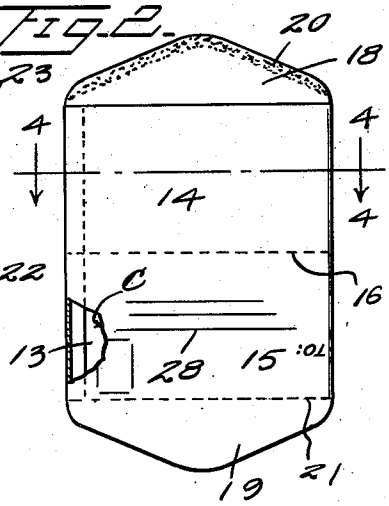


FIG. 3.

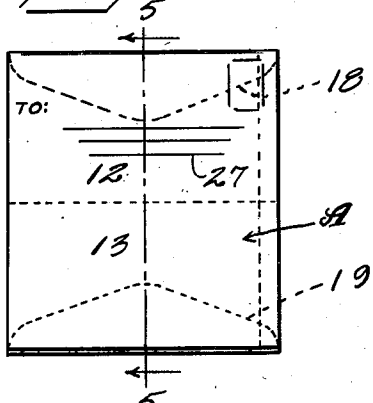


FIG. 7.

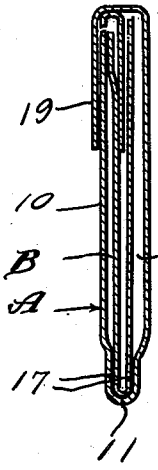


FIG. 5.

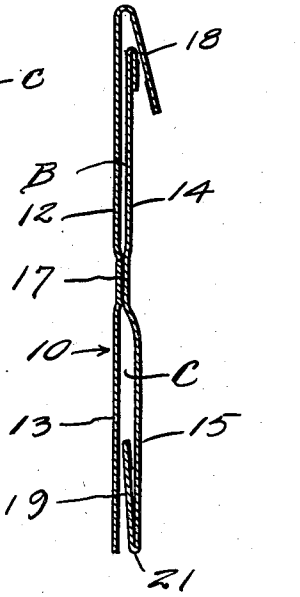


FIG. 4.

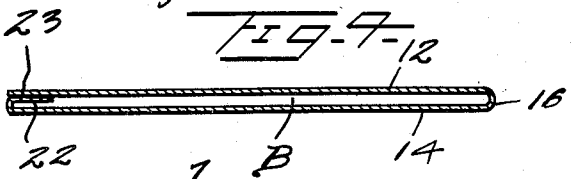
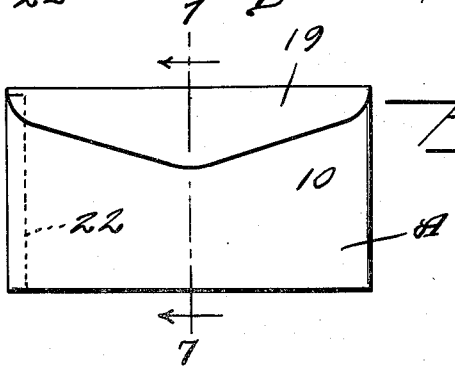


FIG. 6.



Inventor

Marion L. Boling

By Paul O. Parker

Atty.

Patented Sept. 25, 1951 2,568,786

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,568,786

ENVELOPE

Marion L. Boling, Seattle, Wash., assignor to Ona Joyce Boling, Seattle, Wash.

Application January 31, 1949, Serial No. 73,699

1 Claim. (Cl. 229—73)

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The invention relates to a dual-duty envelope, and more especially to an envelope possessed of independent pockets or compartments to be sealed from each other for retaining matter separated and concealed with respect to each other.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of an envelope of this character, wherein its construction is an aid in coordinating and joining the efforts of two parties in corresponding with another, especially during particular occasions, as for example, the doubling-up on gifts to charity and other instances and still be able to remember each other at such times by written greetings or the like.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an envelope of this character, wherein the sender may seal one pocket or compartment thereof and the receiver cannot inspect the contents but can seal the other after placing correspondence within such envelope, refold the latter and mail it to a third party, and neither of the senders knows what the other has sent, due to the arrangement of the flaps and the manner of the design of the layout of the said envelope through the use thereof.

A further object of the invention is the provision of an envelope of this character, wherein its construction effects a dual purpose meeting a long required demand in correspondence transmission under special occasions.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of an envelope of this character, which is extremely simple in construction, thoroughly reliable and efficient in operation, strong, neat in appearance, readily and easily handled, constructed from a single unit, and inexpensive to manufacture and use.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, which discloses the preferred embodiment of the invention, and pointed out in the claim hereunto appended.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the blank from which the envelope constructed in accordance with the invention is made.

Figure 2 is an elevation of the envelope showing it partly folded.

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 2 showing a further folded condition of the envelope.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken approximately on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken approximately on the line 5—5 of Figure 3.

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Figure 6 is a plan view of the envelope when obtained by the final recipient.

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken on the line 7—7 of Figure 6.

Similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views in the drawing.

Referring to the drawing in detail, A designates generally a single sheet of material, such as paper or the like from which blank the envelope constituting the present invention is made or constructed as hereinafter fully described.

The blank or sheet A is cut or otherwise formed to effect a substantially rectangular shaped main body 10 having at its longitudinal center a transverse fold or crease line 11 dividing such blank body 10 into side-by-side and edge-to-edge wall areas 12, 13, 14 and 15, respectively, the areas 12 and 14, and 13 and 15 are opposite to each other when the body 10 is further folded at its midway cross central portion on a fold or crease line 11 after folding on the fold or crease line 16 to effect two independent pockets or compartments denoted generally at B and C, respectively.

Following the fold or crease line 11 is an adhesive coating 17 so that the wall areas 12, 13, 14 and 15 can be sealed together throughout this line 11 and the joining of the areas 12 and 14 and 13 and 15, respectively, in their companionship to each other, thus one pocket or compartment will not communicate with the other at this point of the finished envelope.

At the longer outer edges of the wall areas 12 and 15, are sealing flaps 18 and 19, respectively, each at the free marginal edging being provided with an adhesive 20, and these flaps 18 and 19 are foldable along hinge lines 21 so that the pockets or compartments B and C may be closed and sealed by such flaps at the will of the user of the envelope to confine and conceal the contents placed within such pockets or compartments, one from the other.

The wall areas 14 and 15 at their outer edges remote from the crease line 16 between the areas 12, 13, 14 and 15 and unitary with the said areas 14 and 15 have an attaching wing 22 which is continuous with the said outer edges, while on one surface of this wing 22 is an adhesive 23 for sealed attachment to the outer end edges of the wall areas 12 and 13, the wing 22 being foldable along a crease line 24 following the outer end edges of the said areas 14 and 15. When the wing 22 is joined to the areas 12 and 13 the pockets or compartments B and C will be closed at the outer ends thereof confronting the said

wing 22, as will be obvious from the showing in Figure 2 of the drawing.

The wall area 14 at its outer longer edge is provided with a wing 25 which at opposite ends is free and this wing 25 at one face carries an adhesive 26, the said wing being normally folded downwardly against the outer area of the wall 14 and attachable on unfolding by the adhesive to the wall area 12 next to and following the crease line 21 for the folding of the flap 18 when brought to sealing position, thus the pocket or compartment B is closed and sealed by the said wing 25, and not by the flap 18 which is for a purpose hereinafter described.

By reason of the construction of the envelope as before described it effects the pockets or compartments B and C, respectively, these being independent of each other, so that when sealed closed, the content of both will be confined separated, one from the other, in a single envelope unit, thus assuring secrecy as to the content of one pocket or compartment from that of the other. In other words the pockets or compartments B and C are usable independently of each other for confining and concealing their contents, one from the other, through the use of a single envelope by mail or otherwise.

The envelope constructed in accordance with the invention when set-up for service in the transmission of missions or enclosures in the envelope through the mails is clearly shown in Figures 3 and 4 of the drawing, the flaps 18 and 19, and the wing 25 being normally unsealed for access to the pockets or compartments B and C, respectively.

It must be noted that the sealing flap 18 has the adhesive 20 edgewise thereof on its face reverse to the adhesive 20 upon the face of the flap 19 when the envelope is completed with the pockets or compartments B and C, respectively, accessible for use, or in other words the pocket B having the flap 18 next thereto, the latter carries the adhesive 20 on its face which is reverse to that of the flap 19 carrying the adhesive 20, so that these flaps will properly function when the envelope is sealed closed for transmission through the mails or otherwise.

Now, the address carrying face of the pocket B has identifying markings, as at 27, while the address carrying face of the pocket C has identifying markings, as at 28, respectively, these markings being on reverse sides of the envelope and to bring these markings singly to an exposed position for addressing purposes in the mailing of the envelope the body 10 of the latter is reversely folded following the crease line 11 disposed longitudinally of such envelope body. The first sender of the envelope places matter in the pocket B, thereafter sealing it closed with the wing 25, and finally the flap 18 is sealed to the pocket C which has its flap 19 loosely tucked into the latter, such pocket C at this time being devoid of an enclosure. The address carrying face of the pocket B is now exposed for the sending of the envelope through the mails. When the first addressee of the envelope receives it then the flap 18 is cut open along the line of fold of the latter when sealed, and thus the pocket C is accessible for enclosing matter therein without disturbing the pocket B which is sealed.

For a second sending of the envelope the body 10 of the latter will be reversed by folding following the crease line 11, which brings the pockets B and C in reverse relation to each other over that of the first positions thereof, and now the second sender places matter in the pocket or compartment C, while the flap 19 is untucked from the latter and sealed to the pocket B at the outside of the envelope, thus exposing the address carrying face of such pocket C for service in the final or second transmission of the mail matter through the mails. The first and second senders of the envelope will not have acquired any knowledge of each other's transmissions as carried by the said envelope, the pockets B and C being sealed against access, except to the last recipient who will gain access to these sealed pockets or compartments by breaking the seals thereto.

It is thought that the construction and manner of use of the envelope constituting the present invention will be clearly understood from the foregoing description when taken in connection with the drawing, which forms a part of the disclosure of the invention, and therefore, a more extended explanation has been omitted for the sake of brevity.

What is claimed is:

An envelope of the kind described, comprising: a longitudinally and transversely folded sheet of material having a sealing wing joining its opposite ends effecting a body with walled areas creating double pockets of equal proportions, each of said pockets being normally open at its outermost end, an adhesive following the longitudinal fold line of the body for closing the innermost ends of said pockets and allowing reverse folding of said body at said longitudinal line to bring the said pockets into reverse side-by-side positions with respect to each other, a closing wing formed from one wall area of one pocket for sealing the latter closed independently of the other pocket at the outermost open end, and closing flaps on the body at the outermost open ends of the pockets alternately usable in sealing the body when reversely folded to bring the said pockets in fixed side-by-side relation to each other.

MARION L. BOLING.

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