This invention relates to a self-sealing envelope.

It is an object of my invention to provide a pressure sensitive, self-sealing envelope, more particularly an envelope having on its flap a pressure sensitive adhesive zone so arranged and combined that when not in use the pressure sensitive adhesive zone is in registration with a repellent zone, and sealing thus prevented and when put to its intended use the two zones are moved out of registration to permit the sealing of the envelope by application of a slight pressure.

The above and other objects, advantages and capabilities will become apparent from a detailed description of the accompanying drawing in which I have illustrated a preferred and modified form of my pressure sensitive self-sealing paper envelope. However the constructions there shown are to be understood as illustrative, and not defining the limits of my invention.

Referring to the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of an envelope with the top flap open illustrating an envelope embodying a preferred form of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a similar view of the envelope shown in Fig. 1, but with the adhesive zone folded back on the repellent zone;

Fig. 3 is a front elevational view of the same envelope showing the top flap in heavy lines brought down to position ready for sealing;

Fig. 4 shows the same envelope in sealing position after put to use;

Fig. 5 shows an envelope embodying a modification of my preferred form with the adhesive zone on the top flap and the repellent zone on the body of the envelope;

Fig. 6 shows the same envelope with the top flap folded down into resting position with the adhesive zone in registration with the repellent zone, and

Fig. 7 shows the same modified form of envelope in position immediately before sealing with the repellent zone moved out of registration with the pressure sensitive adhesive zone in order to permit the pressure sensitive sealing zone to seal against the body of the envelope upon the application of slight pressure.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the envelope utilized for the purpose of showing an embodiment of my invention, is of the well-known flap type and is constructed of paper. It has a main body or section 1, a seal flap 2. In the preferred form shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 4, the seal flap 2 as manufactured is provided with a longitudinally extending pressure sensitive adhesive sealing zone 3 arranged near the free edge of the flap 2. Spaced therefrom on the same side of the flap is a longitudinally arranged repellent zone 4 which is repellent to the adhesive zone 3.

As initially manufactured or produced, the pressure sensitive adhesive zone of the flap is folded down against and in registration with the repellent zone in which position it remains until the envelope is put to its intended use. This position may be termed the resting position. To seal the envelope the pressure sensitive adhesive zone is lifted from the repellent zone. The flap is then brought down into engagement with the body of the envelope. The adhesive zone is then pressed slightly against the main body of the envelope and the envelope automatically sealed.

The pressure sensitive adhesive which I utilize is permanently tacky, it is pressure sensitive, that is, pressure sealing, and in my preferred form, the adhesive is made from a rubbery or cellulosic material modified with resin. However any suitable pressure sensitive adhesive may be used.

The repellent utilized in this invention is a lubricant or slip agent, e.g., a soap such as sodium oleate, sodium laureate, etc., a fairly high percentage of which is incorporated into a film forming agent such as casein, glue, starch, resins, etc.

In my modified form of envelope illustrated in Figs. 5, 6 and 7, the pressure sensitive adhesive sealing zone is arranged in the same position as in my preferred form. However on the body of the modified form the envelope as initially manufactured there is provided a flap 6 which is turned down when in resting position, as best shown in Fig. 6. The exposed side of this flap when in that position is provided with a coating of suitable repellent such as above described. When the envelope is not in use and before it is put to its intended use, the pressure sensitive sealing zone is in registration with the repellent coating on the surface of the turned down flap 6. When it is desired to utilize the envelope for its intended purpose, the flap 6 is turned upwardly as indicated in Fig. 7. The pressure sensitive sealing zone is then brought into direct contact with the body 4 of the envelope and the envelope sealed by applying slight pressure to the flap.

It will thus become clear from the foregoing description and illustrations that I have provided a self-sealing paper envelope having only one zone of pressure sensitive sealing adhesive and that said zone as initially manufactured and during storage is in registration with a repellent zone, which envelope is so arranged that when it

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

SELF-SEALING PAPER ENVELOPE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 229—80)

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is desired to use the envelope for its intended purpose the repellent zone is readily and quickly brought out of registration with the pressure sensitive adhesive zone to permit ready automatic sealing of the envelope by the mere application of a slight pressure.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

A self-sealing envelope adapted to prevent unintentional sealing, comprising in combination a front wall, a rear wall, a flap on the front wall adapted to overlap a portion of the rear wall, a pressure sensitive adhesive coating adjacent the free edge of said flap, a coating spaced therefrom on the same side of said flap repellent to said pressure sensitive adhesive, against which the pressure sensitive adhesive zone is folded when the envelope is not in use for its intended purposes, and so arranged that, when desired to use the envelope, the adhesive zone is unfolded and brought in direct contact with the back wall of the envelope and sealed thereto by applying a slight pressure to the flap adjacent the adhesive zone, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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