229. PAPER RECEPTACLES.

68

174

Examine

Aug. 25, 1925. 1,550,750

F. W. SHANNON

ENVELOPE

Filed June 5, 1923

Fig. 1

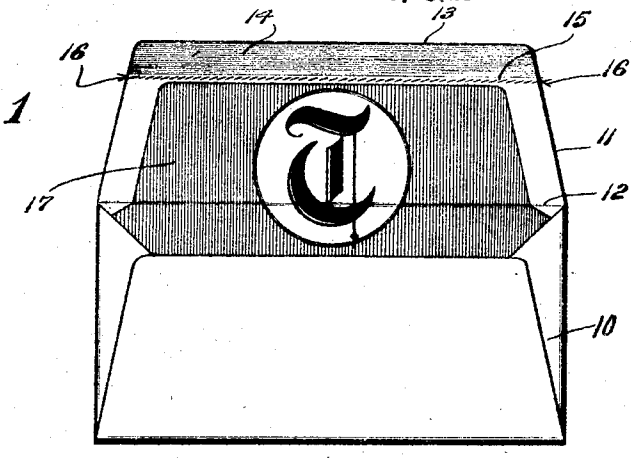


Fig. 2

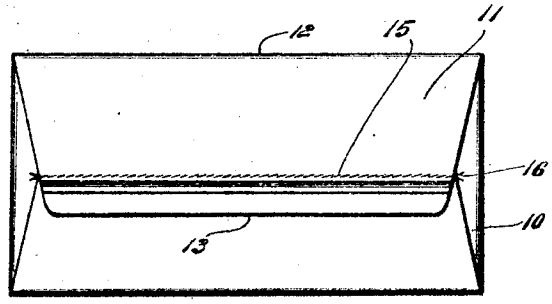
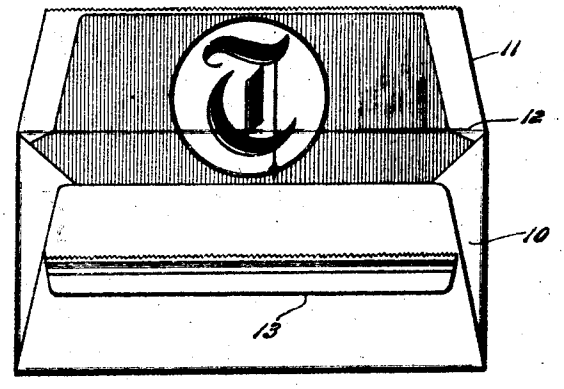


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERIC W. SHANNON, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

ENVELOPE.

Application filed June 5, 1923. Serial No. 643,581.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERIC W. SHANNON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelopes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved envelope and means for opening the same on the line of its gummed edge, to expose a fancy or ornamental inner surface or lining which is applied to the inner surface of the flap; and the object of this invention is to perforate the edge of the flap or to provide a rupture cord or string which may be woven, stitched or otherwise connected to the flap just along the inside edge of its gummed surface whereby the pulling of this cord severs the flap of the envelope on a line following the gummed edge thereof, so that when the flap is opened the design on the inner side of the flap is exposed, the lining being undisturbed and uninjured.

As is well known in opening an envelope, ordinarily, a paper cutter or other instrument is forced beneath the fold of the flap to cut the same and when the envelope is thus opened the handsome and artistic design of the lining or inner surface of the flap is not only not exposed to view but is destroyed, whereby by the use of my improved means for cutting the flap by pulling a severing cord or string positioned in the flap adjacent its gummed edge the inner surface of the flap is completely exposed to view when the envelope is opened as only the edge of the flap is severed and that without destroying or injuring its handsome and attractive lining which in some cases comprises intricate and expensive designs which are much desired by the sender to have preserved.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, as will be more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a view showing my improved form of envelope with its flap in raised position and the stitching in the flap just inside of the line of its gummed margin; also showing the general outline of the fancy lining or inner surface.

Figure 2 shows the flap as folded and its gummed edge secured to the back of the envelope; also showing the cord in position along the inner edge of the gummed line ready for opening the envelope.

Figure 3 shows the flap as having been cut adjacent the gummed marginal edge and raised to expose the lining, the severed portion of the flap remaining stuck to the back of the envelope.

With reference to the drawings, 10 designates the back portion of the body of an envelope, the flap 11 of which is formed by fold 12, the inner surface of the free edge 13 of this flap having a gummed strip 14 and just inside the line of the gummed edge a string or cord 15 is inserted into the flap by stitching, weaving or otherwise with its free ends 16 slightly projecting, whereby these ends may be engaged by the thumb and finger, to cut the flap along the line of the severing cord which is adjacent the inner edge of the gummed strip.

The inner surface of this flap may be provided with a lining of tissue 17 or other material which may be made very handsome and attractive in appearance and may be secured to the inner surface of the flap inside of the severing edge by a marginal strip of gum or other adhesive to extend down into the inside of the body of the envelope, or instead of using a separate lining, the inner surface of the flap and body of the envelope may be printed with ornamental figures or designs such as handsome and attractive monograms or the like which may correspond with that of the heading of the letter sheet.

The main object of this invention is to so construct this envelope that it is particularly adapted to be opened adjacent the inner margin of its adhering or gummed edge, and not in the usual way of opening the envelope, which is that of cutting the same along the folded edge of the flap, and to suggest to the recipient that this is the line to be followed in opening the envelope, at least one of the ends of the severing cord protrudes from the flap, and to accomplish the object of the invention, I have stitched a line or thread or cord 15 through the flap

of the envelope following the contour of the inner edge of the gummed strip, and by pulling the exposed end of the severing cord the flap is cut on the line thereof so that when the flap is opened the uninjured beauty of the handsome and attractive flap lining is presented to the recipient.

It will be seen that if an envelope were opened in the usual way at the fold where the flap is connected to the body portion that the design on the inner surface of the flap would not only be destroyed but would not be visible, but by opening the envelope down along its gummed edge the entire face is practically exposed at the time the letter sheet is removed from the envelope.

The foregoing description is directed solely towards the construction illustrated, but I desire it to be understood that I reserve the privilege of resorting to all the mechanical changes to which the device is susceptible, the invention being defined and limited only by the terms of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An envelope having the marginal edge of the flap thereof gummed, a severing cord adjacent the gummed portion and a lining affixed to the flap by its upper marginal edge only, adjacent and below the severing cord and extending downwardly into the envelope.

2. An envelope having the marginal edge of the flap thereof gummed, a perforated line adjacent the gummed portion and a lining affixed to the flap by its upper marginal edge only adjacent and below the perforated line and extending downwardly into the envelope.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FREDERIC W. SHANNON.