Aug. 16, 1932. F. J. GARGANO 1,871,509

ENVELOPE OPENER

Filed May 18, 1931

FIG. 1.

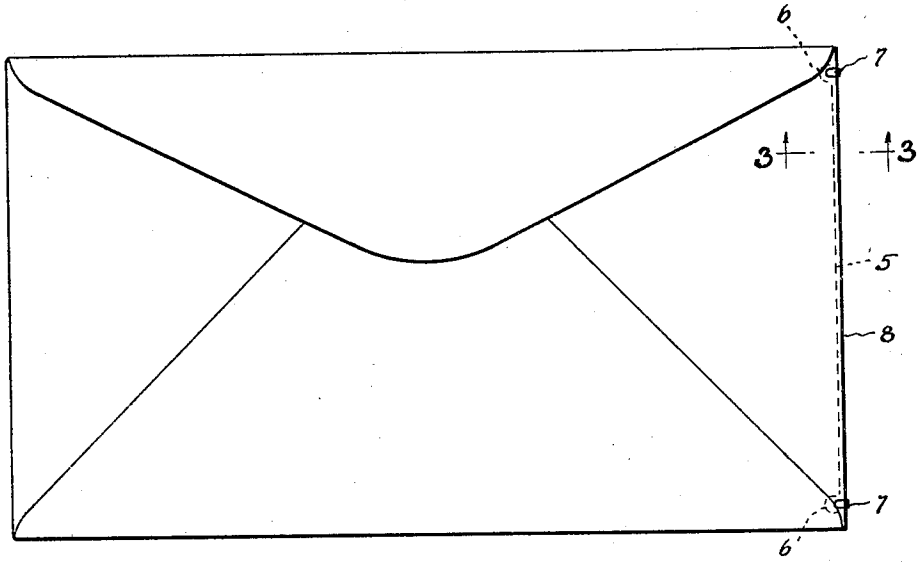


FIG. 2.

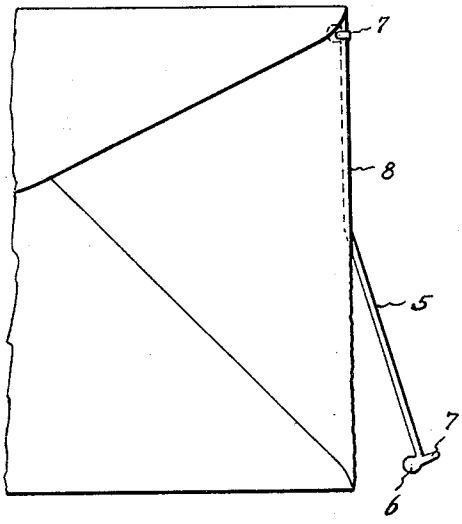


FIG. 3.

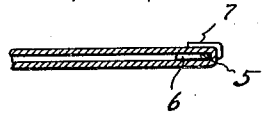
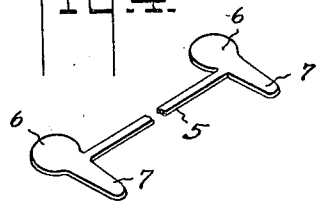


FIG. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ENVELOPE OPENER

Application filed May 18, 1931. Serial No. 538,306.

This invention relates to envelope openers and it has for one of its objects the provision of an improved device of the character mentioned which is simple in construction, economical to make and efficient in action.

Other objects will be appreciated from a reading of the following specification.

The invention will be fully and comprehensively understood from a consideration of the following detailed description when read in connection with the accompanying drawing which forms part of the application, with the understanding, however, that the improvement is capable of extended application and is not confined to the exact showing of the drawing nor to the precise construction described and, therefore, such changes and modifications may be made therefrom as do not affect the spirit of the invention nor exceed the scope thereof as expressed in the appended claim.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a view of the back of an envelope showing the opener of my invention attached to the envelope.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view of the back of an envelope showing an edge of the same partially cut by the opener.

Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 4 is a broken perspective view of the opener.

Referring to the drawing for a more detailed description thereof, the numeral 5 indicates the opener which is shown by itself in Fig. 4. The opener comprises a fine wire 5 carrying heads 6 at its ends, said heads extending from one side of the wire. The wire also carries at its ends tongues 7 extending from the wire opposite the heads 6.

The opener is placed in the envelope before sealing the same, the wire 5 being placed adjacent a side edge 8 of the envelope with the heads 6 inside the envelope and the tongues 7 pushed through the edge 8 to the outside of the envelope, the tongues being bent over onto the back of the envelope.

The heads 6 are of circular disk form and much wider than the tongues 7 but have diameters corresponding to the length of the tongues. By reason of this construction, the heads may be used as finger rests to hold the device flat against the paper while the envelope is being formed and, upon completion of the crease where the device is to be placed, may then be used by the fingers as pushers to cause the tongues to puncture the paper at the folded edge, pressure laterally on the heads being exerted to tension the wire, so that when in position it is perfectly straight. When the tongues are bent over against the paper for attachment, they lie directly over the heads and the latter thus constitute guards for the tongues to keep them from tearing the paper by constituting backings directly back of the tongues.

When it is desired to open the envelope one of the tongues 7 is bent straight with the corresponding head 6 and used as a thumb piece to pull the wire so as to cause the same to cut the envelope at the edge 8, the other end of the wire being held to the envelope during the cutting operation by the other head 6 and corresponding tongue 7. It will readily be appreciated that the head 6 and the bent over tongues 7 function to retain the wire adjacent the edge 8 until the opener is used to open the envelope.

What is claimed as new is:

In combination, an envelope, and an opener disposed in the envelope adjacent a folded edge and comprising a wire lying in the fold, members disposed at opposite ends of the wire and each consisting of a disk-like head and connected tongue, the tongue being of a width less than the diameter of the head but of a length corresponding to the diameter thereof and having its length arranged radially of the head, the connected tongue and head being disposed transversely of the wire and integrally joined to the latter at the line of junction between the two, the heads being disposed interior to the envelope and the tongues extending through the folded edge and being bent over against the heads.

In testimony whereof I hereby affix my signature.

FRANK J. GARGANO.