United States Patent [19]

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[11] **3,734,396**

[45] **May 22, 1973**

[54] TICKET ENVELOPE

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[22] Filed: **Jan. 8, 1971**

[21] Appl. No.: **104,901**

[52] **U.S. Cl.**.....**229/68 R**, 206/39, 229/70, 229/74, 283/23

[51] **Int. Cl.**.....**B65d 27/00**

[58] **Field of Search**.....229/74, 70, 73, 68 R; 283/23; 206/DIG. 22, 39, 40.5, DIG. 29

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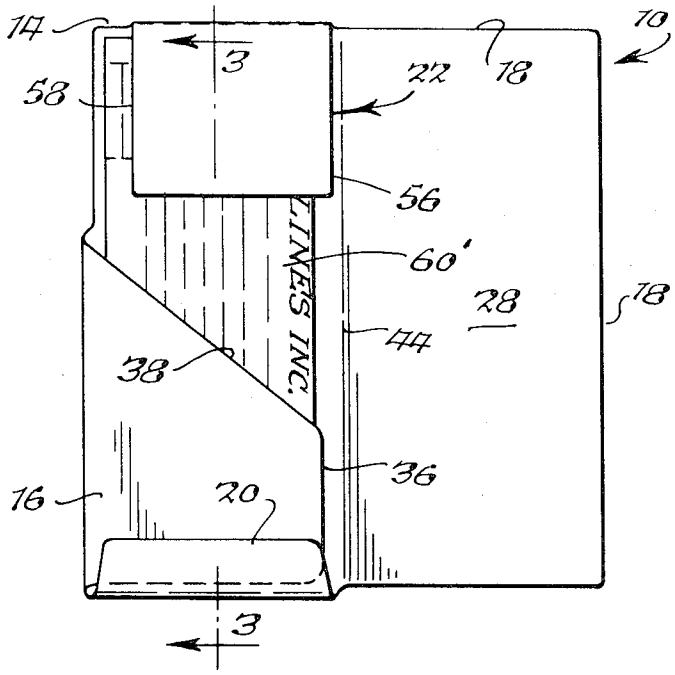
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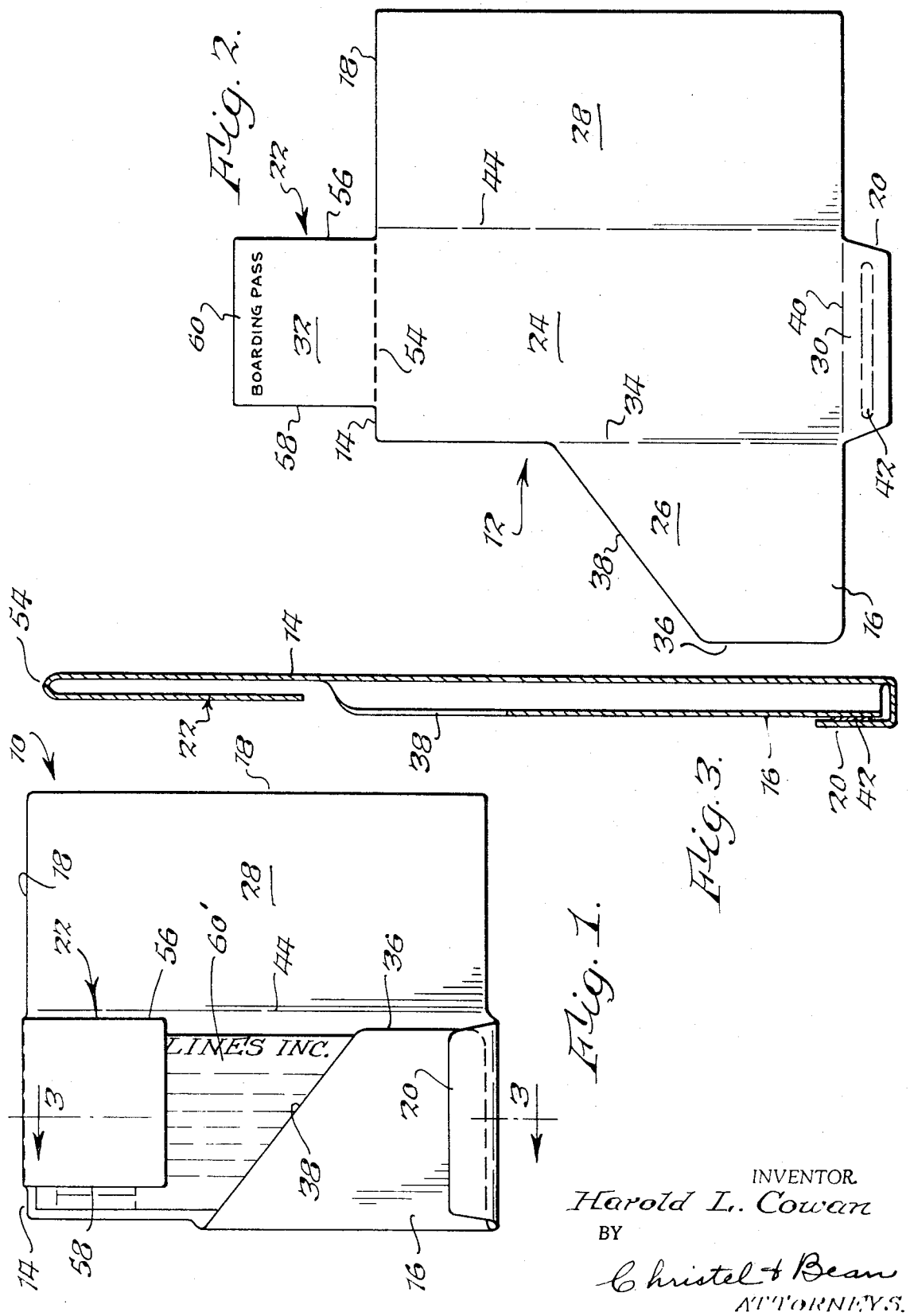
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

In a ticket envelope having a front panel, a rear panel folded over the front panel and a bottom flap secured to the rear panel to form a ticket-receiving pocket, an upper flap is detachably secured to the front panel along a perforated line and is foldable in overlying relation to the front panel. The upper flap functions as a boarding pass and assures retention of the ticket in the pocket.

5 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures





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TICKET ENVELOPE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to envelopes and, more particularly, to ticket for receiving and retaining travel tickets, baggage claim checks, boarding passes, and the like.

It is a common practice in the purchase of travel tickets, such as airline tickets for example, for the ticket agent to deliver the tickets to the purchaser in an envelope, and when the user's baggage is checked at the terminal, the baggage claim checks often are tucked in a common pocket along with the travel tickets, or stapled or otherwise fastened to the ticket envelop. In some instances, a separate boarding pass, bearing flight information, also is issued to the purchaser to admit him aboard the proper aircraft. This boarding pass is in the form of a thin sheet and often is placed in the envelope pocket along with the travel ticket. Withdrawing either the travel ticket or the boarding pass from the common pocket interferes with the other and one may be inadvertently misplaced from the pocket. Efforts to avoid this by stapling or otherwise fastening the boarding pass to the ticket envelope are inconvenient and time consuming to both the ticket agent and the user when he has occasion to refer to or surrender the boarding pass. If the boarding pass is carried separate from the ticket envelope it is apt to be misplaced.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a new and useful ticket envelope having a boarding pass formed integral therewith and detachably joined to one of the panels thereof.

It is a further object of this invention to provide the foregoing in a ticket envelope which is inexpensive and simple in construction and which can be made with existing machinery.

In one aspect thereof, the ticket envelope of the present invention is characterized by the provision of a detachable boarding pass flap formed integral with one of the panels of the envelope and secured thereto along a scored or perforated line to prevent misplacement thereof. The boarding pass bears information on either or both of its faces and can be folded out of the way between panels of the envelope and against the ticket to more securely retain the same within the pocket of the envelope. If required to be surrendered, the boarding pass can be detached by simply tearing the same along the perforated line.

The foregoing and other objects, advantages and characterizing features of the present invention will become clearly apparent from the ensuing detailed description of an illustrative embodiment thereof, taken together with the accompanying drawing wherein like reference characters denote like parts throughout the various views.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a plan view of a ticket envelope of the present invention, shown with the flap constituting the boarding pass and the closure panel in opened positions;

FIG. 2 is a plan view of a blank form from which the envelope of FIG. 1 is formed, the blank being shown prior to folding; and

FIG. 3 is a vertical sectional view, on an enlarged scale, taken about on line 3—3 of FIG. 1 but with the ticket omitted for greater clarity and ease in illustration.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE ILLUSTRATED EMBODIMENT

Referring now in detail to the drawing, there is shown a ticket envelope constructed in accordance with the present invention, generally designated **10** (FIG. 1) formed from a unitary blank, generally designated **12** (FIG. 2). Blank **12** is die cut or otherwise formed from any suitable paper stock and comprises a front panel **14**, a rear panel **16**, a closure panel **18**, a lower flap **20** and an upper flap **22**. Panels **14** and **18** are substantially equal in width and panel **16** is slightly narrower to facilitate folding thereof into the closed position shown in FIG. **1**. These panels and flaps have inner faces identified by reference numerals **24, 26, 28, 30** and **32**, respectively (FIG. **2**).

Front panel **14** is generally rectangular in plan and is joined to rear panel **16** along a fold line **34** defining one side edge thereof. Rear panel **16** has a bottom edge slightly raised or offset from the bottom edge of panel **14**, a relatively short opposite side edge **36** extending from the bottom edge in substantial parallelism with fold line **34** and a top edge **38** inclined upwardly (as viewed in FIGS. **1** and **2**) at an angle from side edge **36** to fold line **34**, intersecting the latter slightly above the midpoint thereof. It should be understood that panel **16** can be made longer with the inclined top edge **38** thereof raised to intersect fold line **34** anywhere along the length thereof, if desired. Rear panel **16** is adapted to be bent along fold line **34** in overlying relation to the lower portion of front panel **14** with inner faces **24** and **26** in facing relation.

Flap **20** extends substantially the entire width of front panel **14** and is joined thereto along a fold line **40** extending at generally a right angle to fold line **34**. A strip of adhesive **42** is applied to inner face **30** of flap **20** and extends generally parallel to fold line **40** across flap **20**. Flap **20** is adapted to be folded along fold line **40** into overlying relation with the bottom portion of the outer face of rear panel **16** when the latter has been folded against panel **14**, and to be secured thereto by adhesive **42** to form a pocket for receiving and retaining tickets therein. If desired, however, flap **20** can be folded along fold line **40** into an underlying relation with the inner face of rear panel **16** when the latter has been folded against panel **14**. Of course with such an arrangement, adhesive **42** would be applied to the outer face of flap **20**. The mouth or inlet of such pocket is located along edges **36** and **38** of rear panel **16** in its folded position.

Closure panel **18** generally corresponds in shape and size to front panel **14** and is joined thereto along a fold line **44** defining the opposite side edge of panel **14** and generally parallel to fold line **34**. Closure panel **18** is adapted to be bent along fold line **44** into a closed position overlying the pocket formed between front panel **14** and rear panel **16**.

A significant feature of this invention is the provision of upper flap **22** which constitutes a boarding pass having pertinent indicia printed on its face **32**. Alternatively, such indicia can be printed on the opposite face of flap **22**, or it can be printed on both faces, as desired, and it will be appreciated that whereas only the words

"Boarding Pass" appear on the drawing, in practice there will be appropriate indicia such as "Flight No.," "Gate No.," "Seat No.," "Departs at," for example. Flap **22** is slightly narrower than front panel **14** so as not to interfere with folding of closure panel **18**, and is joined to panel **14** along a scored or perforated line **54** extending at generally a right angle to fold line **44**. Flap **22** has relatively short, parallel, opposite side edges **56** and **58** extending generally at a right angle to perforated line **54**. Side edges **56** and **58** terminate in a top edge **60** extending generally normal to side edges **56** and **58** and in substantial parallelism with perforated line **54**. It should be understood, however, that flap **22** can be made of any length desired and can take any shape. For example, edges **56** and **58** can be slightly inclined upwardly toward each other in a converging relation as viewed in FIG. **2**, if desired.

Flap **22** can be left upstanding for viewing without opening envelope or it can be folded about perforated line **54** in overlying relation to panel **14** and against the ticket. When folded over the ticket, the boarding pass flap **22** assists in keeping such ticket secure within the pocket formed by panels **14** and **16**. In those instances where the boarding pass must be surrendered, it can be readily detached from panel **14** by simply tearing the same along perforated line **54**.

In forming envelope **10**, blank **12** is first folded along line **34** to bring face **26** of rear panel **16** into face-to-face relation with face **24** of front panel **14**, and bottom flap **20** is then bent inwardly along fold line **40** into overlying relation with the bottom portion of the outer face of rear panel **16** and secured thereto along adhesive line **38**, thereby forming a pocket for receiving a ticket, such as an airline travel ticket identified by reference numeral **60'** in FIG. **1**.

Flap **22**, which constitutes the boarding pass, initially is not folded. After inserting the ticket in the pocket, flap **22** can be folded along perforated line **54** in overlying relation against the ticket to assist in retaining the latter in the pocket formed by panels **14** and **15**. Closure panel **18** can then be folded along line **44** to a closed position overlying the pocket and flap **22** to safely retain the ticket and the boarding pass therein.

From the foregoing, it is apparent that the objects of the present invention have been fully accomplished. An improved ticket envelope is provided having a boarding pass flap formed integral with the front panel of the envelope to preclude misplacement of the pass. The flap can be left projecting from the envelope, or it can be folded out of the way within the envelope and against the ticket to assist in retaining the ticket in place. If desired, the flap can be readily removed by simply tearing the same along its perforated line of folding. While the detachable flap of the envelope of this invention has been described and illustrated as a boarding pass conveniently used with envelopes for travel tickets and the like, it should be understood that it is not necessarily restricted to such use.

A preferred embodiment of this invention having been disclosed in detail, it is to be understood that this has been done by way of illustration only.

I claim:

1. An envelope comprising: a first panel having an inner face, a second panel joined to said first panel along one side thereof and having an inner face in facing relation to said inner face of said first panel, said second panel having a width generally corresponding to the width of said first panel, a flap closing the space between said first and second panels adjacent one end thereof to form a pocket between said panels, said flap being joined to said one end of one of said first and second panels and secured to the other thereof in overlapped relation thereto, a separable flap formed integral with said first panel and joined to the opposite end thereof, said separable flap being foldable into a position overlying at least a portion of said first panel to assist in retaining articles within said pocket, a closure panel joined to said first panel along the other side thereof and foldable along said other side into a closed position overlying said pocket and said separable flap, said closure panel generally corresponding in shape and size to said first panel, and said separable flap being detachable from said envelope and being slightly narrower than said first panel so as not to interfere with the closing of the envelope, said separable flap having boarding pass indicia thereon and joined to said first panel along a perforated fold line to facilitate detachment of said flap from said first panel.

2. An envelope comprising: a first panel having an inner face, a second panel joined to said first panel along one side thereof and having an inner face in facing relation to said inner face of said first panel, said second panel having a width generally corresponding to the width of said first panel, a flap closing the space between said first and second panels adjacent one end thereof to form a pocket between said panels, said flap being joined to said one end of one of said first and second panels and secured to the other thereof in overlapped relation thereto, a separable flap formed integral with said first panel and joined to the opposite end thereof, said separable flap being folded into a position overlying at least a portion of said first panel to assist in retaining articles within said pocket, a closure panel joined to said first panel along the other side thereof and folded along said other side into a closed position overlying said pocket and said separable flap, said separable flap having indicia thereon and joined to said first panel along a perforated fold line to facilitate detachment of said flap from said first panel.

3. An envelope according to claim **2** wherein said closing flap is joined to said one end of said first panel and secured to said second panel in overlying relation thereto.

4. An envelope according to claim **2** wherein said second panel extends along one side of said first panel from adjacent said one end thereof and terminating short of the opposite end thereof in an edge extending substantially across the width of said first panel in spaced relation to the free end of said separable flap when folded into said overlying position.

5. An envelope comprising: a first panel having an inner face, a second panel joined to said first panel along one side thereof and having an inner face in facing relation to said inner face of said first panel, said second panel having a width generally corresponding to the width of said first panel, a flap closing the space between said first and second panels adjacent one end thereof to form a pocket between said panels, said flap being joined to said one end of one of said first and second panels and secured to the other thereof in overlapped relation thereto, a separable flap formed integral with said first panel and joined to the opposite end thereof, said separable flap being folded into a position overlying at least a portion of said first panel to assist

in retaining articles within said pocket, a closure panel joined to said first panel along the other side thereof and folded along said other side into a closed position overlying said pocket and said separable flap, said closure panel generally corresponding in shape and size to said first panel, and said separable flap being detachable from said envelope and having opposite sides intersecting said opposite end of said first panel at spaced points inwardly of the opposite sides of said first panel so as not to interfere with the closing of the envelope.

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