April 24, 1928. 1,667,258

W. H. HOLLAR, JR

ENVELOPE

Filed April 7, 1926

FIG. I.

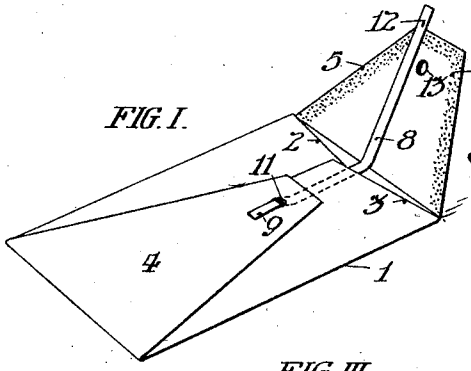


FIG. II.

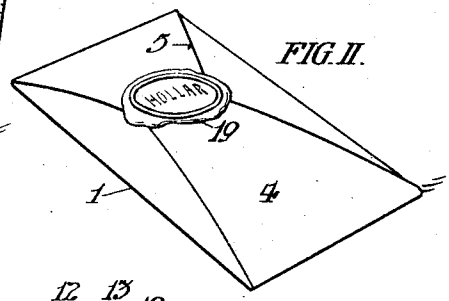


FIG. III.

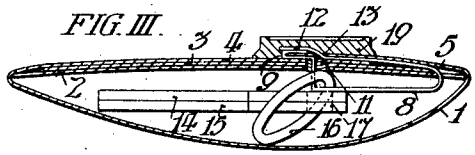


FIG. IV.

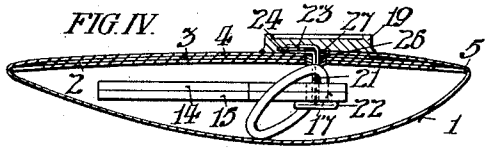


FIG. V

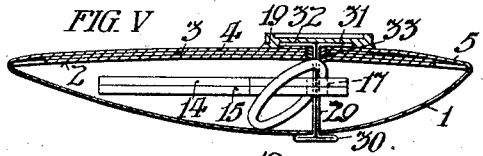


FIG. VI.

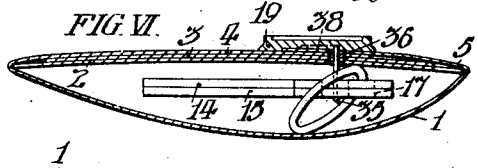
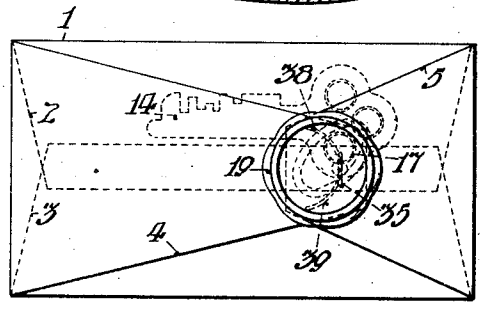


FIG. VII.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ENVELOPE.

Application filed April 7, 1926. Serial No. 100,330.

It is the present practice for banking institutions to lease what are termed "deposit boxes", to wit, small drawers provided with locks, which may be opened by keys furnished to the lessees. Despite the usual precautions; it is possible that such boxes may be fraudulently opened by any employee of the lessor who has had access to the keys before the delivery of the same to the lessee, and thus had an opportunity of making, or having made, a duplicate or duplicates of the same.

Therefore, the principal object and effect of my invention is to provide an envelope with means so constructed and arranged that it may be utilized to seclude any such original key, from the time of its manufacture until its delivery to the lessee. In the form of my invention hereinafter described, such an envelope includes a flexible member extending within the envelope inclosure, of such character as to engage the key therein, and having its ends presented exterior to the envelope where they may be imbedded in a seal of frangible material; so that although such key secluding means is in no sense "burglar proof", it is of such character as to manifest if any attempt has been made to open it, and the fact that it has not been tampered with, affords assurance to the lessee that no unauthorized person has had the opportunity of making a duplicate of the key or keys thus secluded.

My invention includes the various novel features of construction and arrangement hereinafter more definitely specified.

In said drawings; Fig. I is a perspective view of an envelope embodying my invention in its initial form and condition, before use.

Fig. II is a perspective view of an envelope conveniently embodying my invention in its normal sealed condition.

Fig. III is a longitudinal sectional view of said envelope in its sealed condition shown in Fig. II.

Fig. IV is a longitudinal sectional view of a modified form of my invention.

Fig. V is a longitudinal sectional view of another modified form of my invention.

Fig. VI is a longitudinal sectional view of another modified form of my invention.

Fig. VII is a plan view of the form of my invention shown in Fig. VI, showing the disposition of the key holding means with reference to the seal.

In each of said forms of my invention, the envelope 1 is conveniently formed of a primarily plain sheet of heavy tough paper having inner flaps 2 and 3 and outer flaps 4 and 5; said flaps 2, 3, and 4 being stuck together with suitable adhesive material and said flap 5 being left open as in Fig. I, but provided with dried adhesive material 7 at the edge thereof which may be moistened to cause it to adhere to the other flaps in the closed position shown in the other figures.

Referring to the form of my invention shown in Figs. I to III inclusive; the key holder 8 is conveniently formed of a strip of flexible sheet metal, for instance, lead or similar ductile material. Said holder has its end 9 extending through each of said flaps 2, 3 and 4 which have respective registered perforations 11 for the same. The other end 12 of said holder 8 primarily extends parallel with the open flap 5 of the envelope, but is adapted to be thrust through the perforation 13 in said flap 5, so that the keys 14 and 15 which are connected by the split key ring 16 extending through openings 17 therein may be attached to said holder by slipping said ring over said holder 8, between the latter and said flaps 2 and 3, as indicated in Fig. III. Thereupon, the end 12 of said holder 8 may be thrust through said hole 13 in the flap 5, and said adhesive 7 on the flap 5 being moistened, said flap may be folded over and caused to adhere to the flaps 2, 3, and 4, said holder 8 being correspondingly bent in that operation. Thereupon, said end 9 of the holder 8 may be bent over the primarily free end of said flap 5 beneath the end 12 of said holder, and both ends 9 and 12 of said holder be then imbedded in sealing means, including a body of frangible material 19 such as ordinary sealing wax, fused upon the exterior of the envelope and adherent thereto.

It is, of course, to be understood that the construction and arrangement above described are such that it is necessary to break said seal 19 to release said keys 14 and 15 from the envelope, and that the latter cannot be opened to afford access to the keys without disrupting it; so that any attempt to tamper with the key inclosure described is manifested by the condition of the same.

Referring to the form of my invention shown in Fig. IV, the key holder 21 is conveniently formed of a strip of flexible sheet

material, for instance, lead, which has a T-head 22 formed therewith by flattening a bight of said strip. Said holder has its ends 23 and 24 extending through the openings 17 in the keys 14 and 15 with its head holding the keys beneath the envelope flap 2. Both of said holder ends 23 and 24 (which were primarily straight, and at right angles to said head 22,) are thrust through respective registered perforations 26, in said flaps 2, 3, and 4. However, I prefer to only extend the end 23 of said strip through the perforation 27 in the flap 5. The free end of said flap 5 is then attached, to the envelope, by its adhesive coating 7. Said holder is then bent with its two ends 23 and 24 parallel with the plane of the envelope and pressed against the outer face thereof, and said ends are then imbedded in sealing means including a body of frangible material 19 such as ordinary sealing wax, fused upon the exterior of the envelope and adherent thereto. Of course, such construction and arrangement render it necessary to break said seal 19 to release said keys 14 and 15 from the holder 21, and the envelope cannot be opened to afford access to said keys without disrupting it.

Referring to the form of my invention shown in Fig. V; the key holder 29 is similar to said key holder 21, but the T head 30 thereof extends outside of the envelope 1 and the ends 31 and 32 of said holder extend through the openings 17 in the keys 14 and 15, within said envelope, holding said keys beneath the envelope flap 2. Said ends extend thence through registered perforations 33 in each of said flaps 2, 3, 4 and 5. Said ends of the holder 29, which were primarily straight and at right angles to its head, are thrust thence through the registered perforations 33 in the respective envelope flaps 2, 3, 4, and 5, and the free end of the latter then attached, to the envelope, by its adhesive coating 7. Said ends of the holder 29 are then bent parallel with the outer face of the envelope and imbedded in sealing means 19, such as above described. Of course, it is necessary to break said sealing means or disrupt said envelope to release the keys from said holder 29.

Referring to the form of my invention shown in Figs. VI and VII, the key holder 35 is conveniently formed of a piece of cylindrical wire, primarily shaped like a hair-pin. Said holder 35 is thrust through the openings 17 in the keys 14 and 15. Said keys are then placed within the envelope inclosure and the ends of said holder 35 thrust thence outwardly through the registered perforations 36 in the flaps 2, 3, 4, and 5 of said envelope. The free end of said flap 5 is then attached to the envelope by its adhesive 7, and the ends 38 and 39 of said holder 35 are bent parallel with the plane of the envelope and spread apart, as best shown in Fig. VII, so as to be imbedded in the sealing means 19 which are then applied to the envelope, as above described. Such construction and arrangement of course secure said keys within the envelope so that it is necessary to break the seal 19 or disrupt the envelope to release them.

So far as I am aware, it is broadly novel to provide an envelope with article holding means extending from the outside to the inside of the envelope, through the wall of the latter, in such position as to directly engage an article within the envelope, hold the flaps of the envelope together and in such position as to be imbedded in sealing means exterior to the envelope. Therefore, I do not desire to limit myself to the precise details of construction, arrangement, or method of use of my invention above described, as it is obvious that various modifications may be made therein, without departing from the essential features of my invention, as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. The combination with an envelope formed of flexible sheet material, comprising overlapped and adherent flaps and normally open only at one edge and there provided with a closure flap; of a metallic key holder including a strip of sheet metal including a bight extending within the envelope inclosure and adapted to there engage a key, one end of said holder extending outwardly through registered perforations in said overlapped flaps, independently of said closure flap, and the other end of said holder extending through a perforation in said closure flap; said first end of said holder being bent over said closure flap, beneath said other end; and sealing means including a body of frangible material fused upon the exterior of the envelope, and adherent thereto, and imbedding both ends of said holder; whereby it is necessary to break said seal to release said key from said inclosure.

2. The combination with an envelope formed of flexible sheet material, including a normally open closure flap; of a key holder including a flexible strip forming a bight extending within the envelope inclosure and adapted to there hold a key; one end of said holder extending outwardly through a perforation in said envelope, independently of said closure flap, and the other end of said holder extending through a perforation in said closure flap; and sealing means including a body of frangible material fused upon the exterior of the envelope, and adherent thereto, and imbedding both ends of said holder; whereby it is necessary to break said seal to release said key from said inclosure.

3. The combination with an envelope formed of flexible sheet material, including a normally open closure flap; of a key hold-

er including a flexible metallic member extending within the envelope inclosure and adapted to there hold a key; both ends of said metallic member extending exterior to said envelope; and sealing means including a body of frangible material upon the exterior of the envelope, and adherent thereto, and imbedding both ends of said holder; whereby it is necessary to break said seal to release said key from said inclosure.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, this 5th day of April, 1926.

WILLIAM H. HOLLAR, JR.