May 17, 1932. E. G. OVERLY 1,858,277

ENVELOPE

Filed April 25, 1930

Fig. 1.

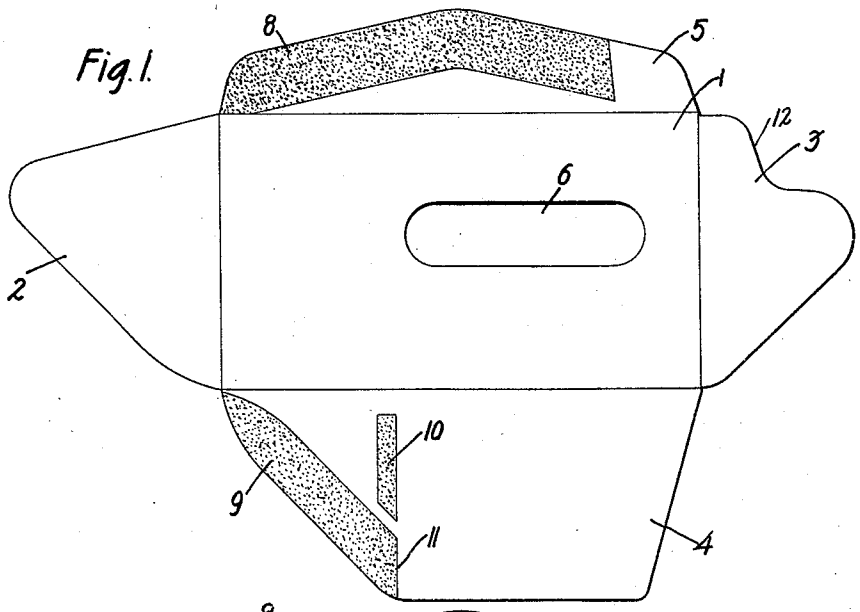


Fig. 2.

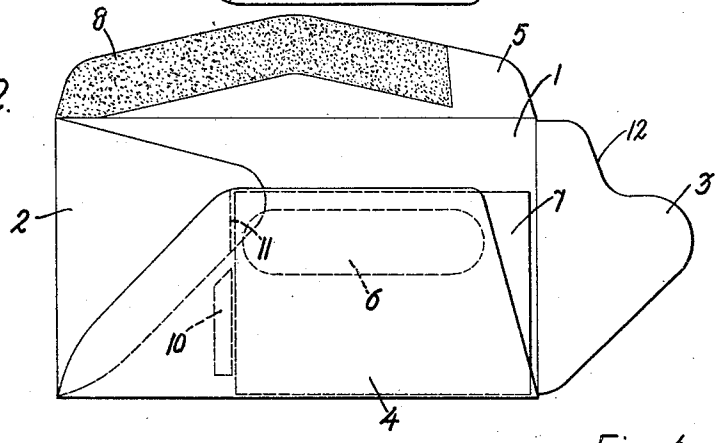


Fig. 3.

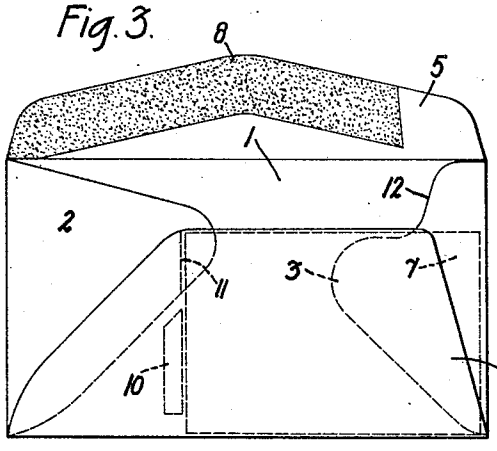
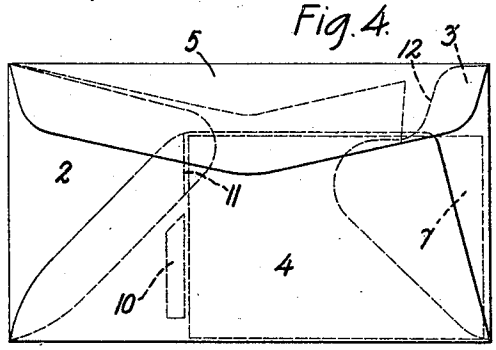


Fig. 4.



INVENTOR
Elmer G. Overly

BY
Moses & Nolte
ATTORNEYS

Patented May 17, 1932

1,858,277

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ELMER G. OVERLY, OF GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

ENVELOPE

Application filed April 25, 1930. Serial No. 447,148.

This invention relates to window envelopes for mailing small addressed cards or other enclosures, and is in the nature of an improvement upon the invention disclosed in Letters Patent of the United States No. 1,601,318, granted to me on September 28, 1926.

In common with the invention of said patent, it is the purpose of the present invention to provide an envelope of usual or standard size with means adapted to hold a card smaller than the envelope, itself, in a predetermined position, so that an address on one face of the card will necessarily register with an opening in the face of the envelope.

It is a particular object of the present invention to provide an envelope of the kind referred to adapted to receive a card having an address printed near the top thereof and to exhibit such address through a window of the envelope while leaving ample space along the top margin of the face of the envelope for the return address and for postage.

It is a further object of the invention to provide an envelope of the kind referred to in which a stop for limiting movement of the enclosure is formed by the adhesive securement of two of the flaps to one another.

It is a further object of the invention to provide an envelope of the kind referred to in which the enclosure smaller than the envelope may be inserted against a positive stop and may then be confined against movement by the sealing of the envelope.

It is a still further object of the invention to make provision of a stop for confining movement of the enclosure by the adhesive securement of a flap to the envelope body and to employ another envelope flap as a guard to clearly define the area of exposure of the envelope body to the adhesive on the first-mentioned flap, and thereby to define the enclosure engaging boundary of such stop.

Other objects and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the drawings forming part of this specification:

Figure 1 is a plan view of an envelope blank used in the manufacture of an envelope embodying features of the invention;

Figure 2 discloses the same blank with the bottom flap and one side flap folded;

Figure 3 shows the same blank with the second side flap also folded; and

Figure 4 shows the finished envelope folded and sealed.

The envelope comprises a body portion 1 having side flaps 2 and 3, a bottom flap 4, and a top flap 5. The body portion 1 is provided with a window 6 for exhibiting the address typed or stenciled on an enclosure card 7. The top flap 5 has a coating of adhesive 8 applied to it, and the bottom flap 4 has coatings of adhesive 9 and 10 applied to it, the coating 10 being optional, as will be hereinafter pointed out.

The blank of Figure 1 is formed into an envelope by folding in the side flaps 2 and 3 and folding the bottom flap 4 over upon the body portion of the envelope and upon the side flaps. The adhesive area 9 overlies the margin of the side flap 2, so that the flaps 2 and 4 are adhesively secured together. This area, however, escapes engagement with the bottom of the envelope. It will be noted that the adhesive area 9 terminates at the right hand boundary thereof in a straight vertical line 11. It will also be noted that a portion of the side flap 2 to the right of the line 11 is exposed, as seen in Figure 2. A card 7 of the size and shape shown may accordingly be readily introduced between the flaps 2 and 4 in the unsecured areas thereof, and may be inserted in the envelope to the position shown in Figure 2. When so inserted the adhesively connected flaps 2 and 4 form a stop for limiting movement of the card toward the left, as seen in Figure 2. Since the card engages the fold lines at the bottom and the right hand side of the envelope, movement of the card downward or toward the right is also prevented.

The envelope is sealed by moistening and folding over the top flap 5 against the envelope body and the other three flaps. The adhesive area 8 overlies a portion of the side flap 2 and a portion of the bottom flap 4, so that the flap 5 is adhesively connected to these two flaps. The adhesive area 8 also overlies a portion of the body of the envelope

which is not protected by the side and bottom flaps. The top flap 5 accordingly becomes adhesively connected to the body of the envelope in an area whose lower boundary coincides with the upper edge of the bottom flap 4. Such adhesive connection of the top flap 5 and the envelope body necessarily prevents upward movement of the card 7, so that the card is definitely fixed against movement in any direction. It is not, however, itself adhesively connected to any portion of the envelope, since the bottom flap 4 is of greater height than the card and protects the entire area of the card which would otherwise be exposed to the adhesive on the flap 5.

The adhesive area 8 does not extend completely across the top flap 5, the right hand end of the top flap being left free of adhesive. The side flap 3 is cut away to provide a recess 12. As a result of this arrangement, the adhesive of the top flap does not overlap any portion of the side flap which is unprotected by the bottom flap, and accordingly the side flap 3 is left free to be withdrawn at will by the postal authorities, so that the contents of the envelope may be examined. In other words, the envelope is of the type adapted for the mailing of what is now classified as third class mail matter. It will be understood, of course, that for the use of the envelope as first class mail the side flap 3 may be sealed shut as in any ordinary first class envelope.

It will be noted that the card 7 is confined to a position in which the address written upon it will be exhibited through the window of the envelope by the stops already described, independently of the provision of the adhesive area 10. If greater security is required, however, the adhesive area 10 may be provided so that the flap 4 and body 1 will coact to provide a stop in line with the stop formed by flaps 2 and 4.

If adhesive 10 is omitted, the back and body of the envelope remain wholly unconnected until the top flap is folded over and sealed. The envelope may, therefore, be employed optionally for cards of the length of the card 7 or for cards having the same length as the envelope but the height of the card 7. The envelope may, if desired, be made capable of transmitting cards of the length of card 7, and also of any selected length desired greater than that of the card 7, but not greater than the length of the envelope. Thus the adhesive area 10 which secures the bottom flap to the body of the envelope may be located at any point desired in accordance with the length of the card for which it is desired to adapt the envelope. It will be understood, of course, that if any card longer than the card 7 is employed in the envelope illustrated, the card will not be inserted between the unsecured areas of the flaps 2 and 4, but will be inserted between the flap 2 and the body of the envelope. The folding over and sealing of the top flap will serve to provide a stop for limiting upward movement of the card in the manner already described, regardless of the length of carding employed.

I have described what I believe to be the best embodiment of my invention. I do not wish, however, to be confined to the embodiment shown, but what I desire to cover by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An envelope comprising a body portion having a window opening therein, flap portions comprising a side flap and a bottom flap, and a stop for limiting movement of an enclosure smaller than the envelope, formed by the adhesive union of said flaps.

2. An envelope comprising a body portion having a window opening therein, flap portions comprising side flaps, a bottom flap and a sealing flap, and a stop for limiting movement of an enclosure smaller than the envelope, formed by the adhesive union of the sealing flap and the body portion outside the bounds of the side and bottom flap portions.

3. An envelope comprising a body portion having a window opening therein, flap portions comprising side flaps, a bottom flap and a sealing flap, and a stop for limiting movement of an enclosure smaller than the envelope, formed by the adhesive union of the sealing flap and the body portion, the bottom flap having a straight upper boundary and serving as a guard for the body portion to control the location of the enclosure engaging boundary of said stop.

4. A window envelope adapted to receive an addressed enclosure substantially smaller than itself and to maintain such enclosure substantially in engagement with the bottom and side boundaries of the envelope, said envelope comprising a body portion, side flaps, a bottom flap, a top sealing flap, a stop for limiting sidewise movement of the enclosure, formed by the adhesive union of two of said flaps, and a stop limiting upward movement of the enclosure formed by the adhesive union of the sealing flap and the body portion.

5. A window envelope comprising a body portion, a plurality of flaps, and a stop for limiting movement of a small enclosure in the envelope, formed by the adhesive union of two of the flaps.

6. An envelope comprising a body portion, flap portions, and a stop for limiting movement of a small enclosure formed by the adhesive union of the body portion and one of said flap portions, another of the flap portions serving as a guard to limit the area of adhesion and thereby definitely control the location of the enclosure engaging boundary of the stop.

7. An envelope comprising a body portion

having a window therein, a pair of flaps lapped onto one another and adhesively united to form a stop for limiting movement of a small enclosure, and adhesive uniting one of said flaps to the body portion to provide an additional stop for limiting movement of a small enclosure.

8. An envelope comprising a body portion having a window, flap portions, a stop formed by the adhesive union of a flap portion with the body portion for limiting movement of the enclosure in one direction, and a stop formed by the adhesive union of two flap portions for limiting movement of the enclosure in another direction.

9. An envelope comprising a body having return address and postage areas in the upper margin thereof, and having a window opening below such margin, flap portions including a sealing flap, and stops, including a stop formed by the adhesive union of the sealing flap and the body outside the bounds of the other flap portions, for confining a small addressed enclosure to a lower corner of the envelope with the address thereof in register with the window.

10. An envelope comprising a body portion having a window therein, a pair of side flaps, a bottom flap, and a sealing flap, adhesive uniting the bottom flap with one of the side flaps and thereby forming a stop for limiting movement of a small enclosure, and a second stop formed by the adhesive union of the sealing flap with the body portion, the bottom flap forming a guard to limit the area of adhesion of the sealing flap and the body portion, and also to prevent adhesion of the sealing flap to the other side flap.

11. An envelope comprising a body portion having a window opening therein, a bottom flap, a first side flap cooperative with the bottom flap to form a stop for limiting movement of the enclosure, a second side flap, and a sealing flap, the sealing flap having an adhesive area adapted to be applied to the body portion to form a stop for limiting movement of the enclosure, and the second side flap being cut away to escape engagement with the adhesive area of the sealing flap.

12. An envelope comprising a body portion having a window opening therein, a bottom flap, a first side flap, a sealing flap, and a second side flap, the sealing flap having an adhesive area formed to engage the body portion outside the bounds of the other flaps, and also to engage the bottom flap and the first side flap, but to escape engagement with the second side flap, whereby the second side flap is left free to permit withdrawal and inspection of the enclosure.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature to this specification.

ELMER G. OVERLY.