No. 883,364. PATENTED MAR. 31, 1908.

M. L. WALTER.

ENVELOP.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 31, 1906.

Fig. 1.

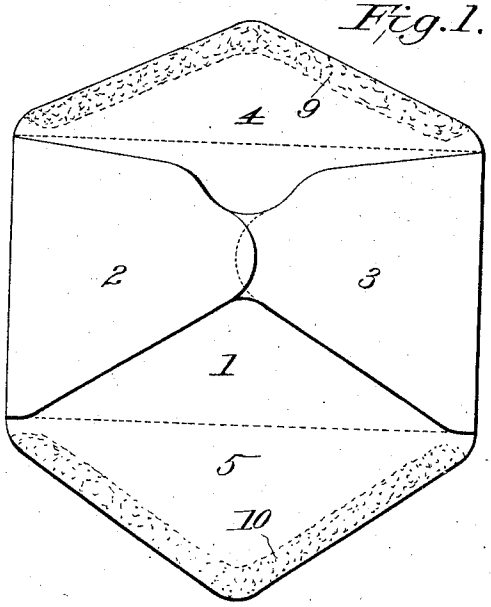


Fig. 2.

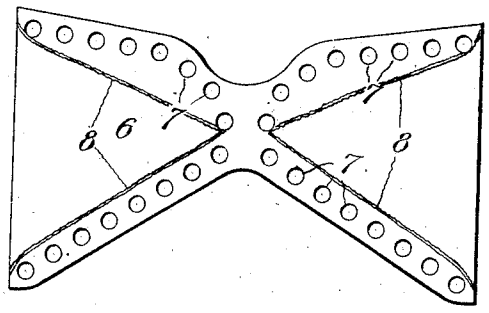


Fig. 3.

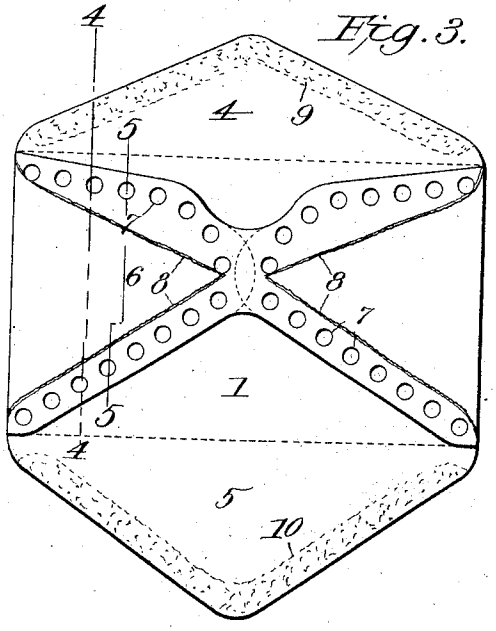


Fig. 4.

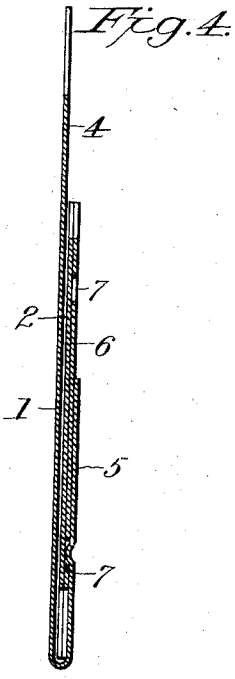


Fig. 5.

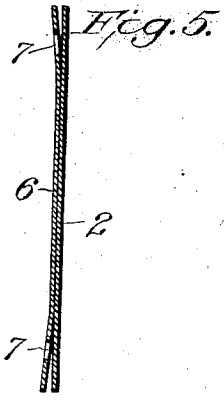
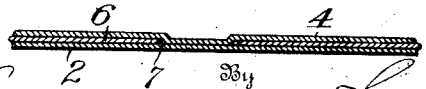


Fig. 6.



Witnesses

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ENVELOP.

No. 883,364. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 31, 1908.

Application filed July 31, 1906. Serial No. 328,585.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTIN L. WALTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kramer, in the county of Bottineau and State of North Dakota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to envelops, and has for its object to prevent the opening thereof without indicating that the envelop has been tampered with.

In carrying out the invention, it is proposed to maintain the form of envelop now in general use and to apply the improvement thereto without sacrificing the strength, durability and utility of the ordinary envelop.

With these and other objects in view, the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings,—Figure 1 is a plan view of the rear of an envelop; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the frangible sealing material separate from the envelop; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the rear of an envelop having the frangible sealing material secured thereto, the side flaps being unsealed; Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view through my improved envelop on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3 with one of the side flaps sealed; Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3; and Fig. 6 is an enlarged detail sectional view showing one side flap sealed to back of envelop through one of the perforations of the frangible material.

Like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in each of the several figures of the drawings.

The blank of the present envelop includes a body 1, which constitutes the front of the envelop and may be of any shape and size. As is usual, the body is provided with end flaps 2 and 3, the top closure flap 4 and the bottom closure flap 5, the end flaps being folded over and suitably connected where they overlap, preferably by an adhesive, as in the ordinary manufacture of envelops.

In carrying out the present invention I employ a seal element 6, which is in the nature of a thin sheet of paper, preferably tissue paper, which is shaped according to the size and shape of the overlapped end flaps of the envelop and is connected thereto at its opposite ends and throughout intermediate portions by means of an adhesive. The longitudinal edges of this seal are free from the back of the envelop, as shown in Fig. 5, which is made up of the end flaps, and these free edges are provided with a series of perforations 7.

In addition to the perforations, the seal is provided with lines or marks formed by fugitive ink, the embodiment shown in the present drawing being in the nature of lines 8 extending diagonally across the seal. Instead of lines I may employ a border or other ornamental form, and I also contemplate having advertising printed upon the seal in fugitive ink adjacent the perforations. As these slight changes are obvious it has not been deemed necessary to illustrate the same.

The flaps 4 and 5 are of course provided with dry adhesive, as shown at 9 and 10, and the flaps 2 and 3 are of course sealed when the envelop is being manufactured, the form of the envelop when being placed upon the market being shown in Fig. 4 of the drawing. When an inclosure has been placed in the envelop, the flap 4 is sealed in the usual manner by moistening the dry adhesive and then folding the flap over upon the back of the envelop.

When the envelop is sealed, it will be noted that the top and bottom flaps 4 and 5 respectively are connected to the back of the envelop through the perforations in the seal element 6, wherefore it is impossible to open said closure flaps without tearing the seal sheet. Should it be attempted to open the envelop by steaming or moistening the same, the fugitive ink will of course run thereby indicating that the envelop has been tampered with.

From the foregoing description it will be understood that the envelop of the present invention has all of the essential characteristics of the ordinary envelop, and in addition thereto embodies an effective seal which must of necessity be destroyed in attempting to open the envelop, wherefore the envelop will clearly and distinctly indicate any attempt to open the same.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:—

1. An envelop having a frangible seal in the form of a sheet of paper secured to the back of the envelop, and having portions free of the envelop, the free portions having perforations through which the closure flap is connected to the envelop, the sealing flap also adhering to said sheet, the frangible seal having fugitive ink thereon.

2. An envelop having a seal in the nature of a frangible sheet secured to the outer face of the folded end flaps, the upper and lower edges of the sheet being free of the end flaps and provided with perforations disposed to have both closure flaps secured to the back of the envelop through the perforations when the envelop is sealed, the closure flaps also adhering to the sheet when the envelop is sealed, whereby the sheet and envelop will be torn when either closure flap is opened.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MARTIN L. WALTER.

Witnesses:

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W. G. BOWEN