May 1, 1945. E. B. BERKOWITZ 2,374,798

ENVELOPE

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Fig. 1.

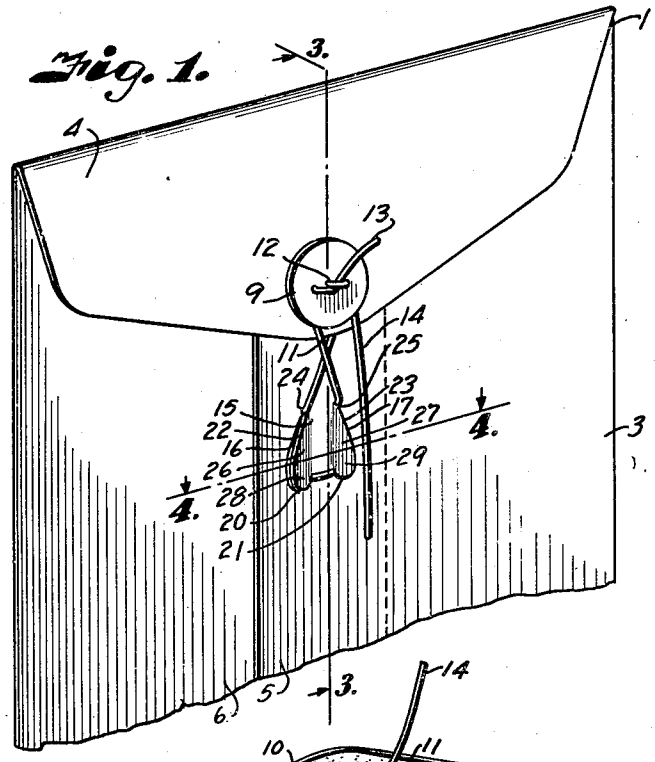


Fig. 3.

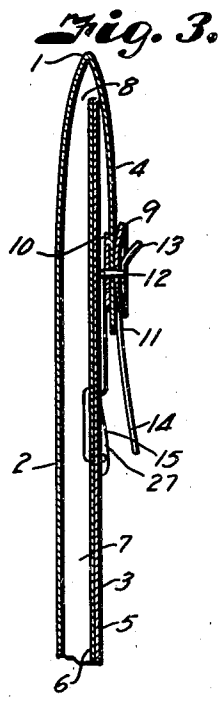


Fig. 2.

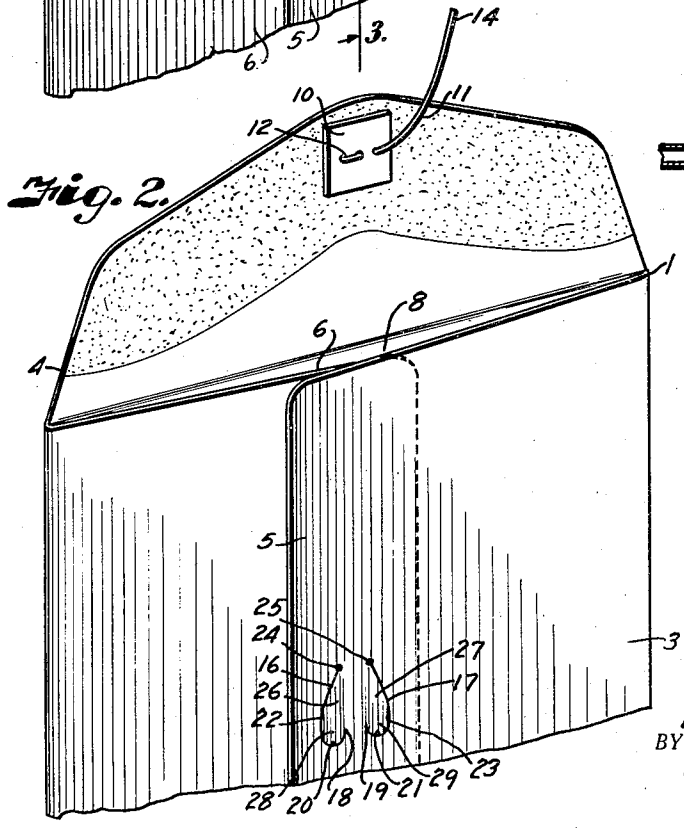


Fig. 4.

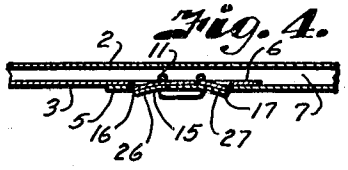
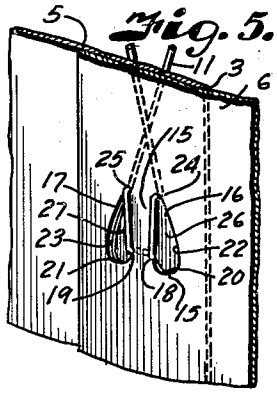


Fig. 5.



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Fig. 6.

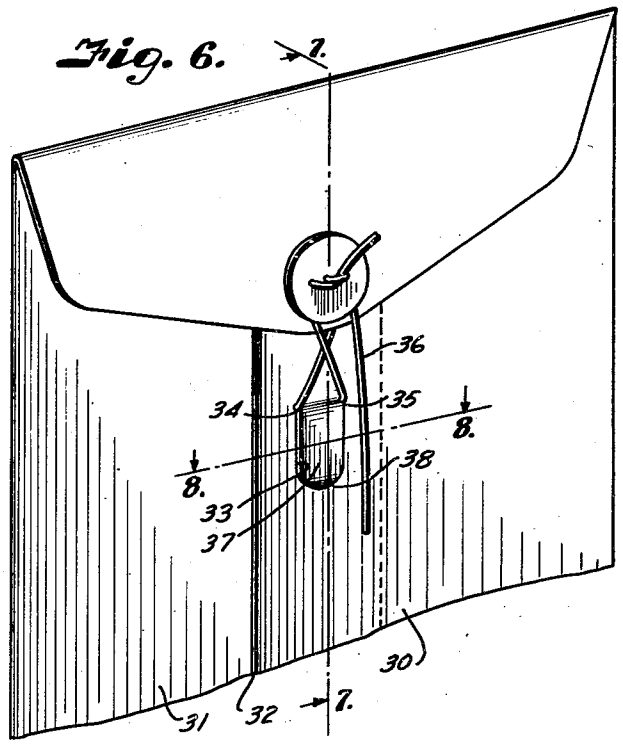


Fig. 7.

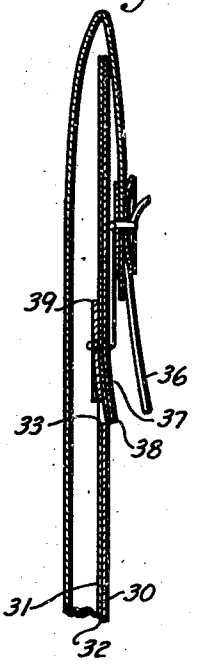


Fig. 8.

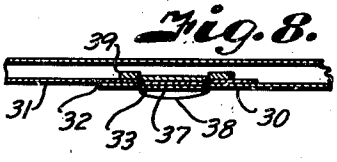


Fig. 9.

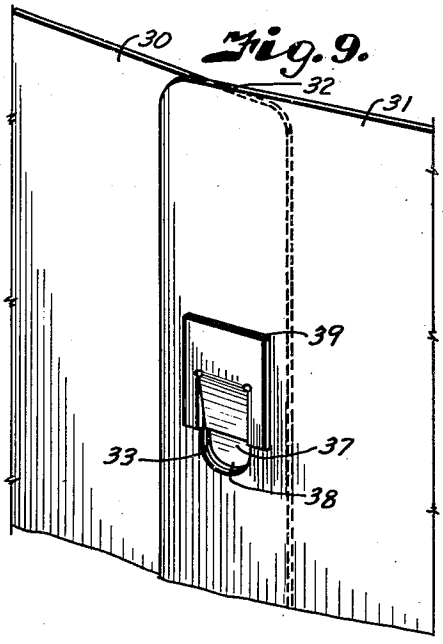
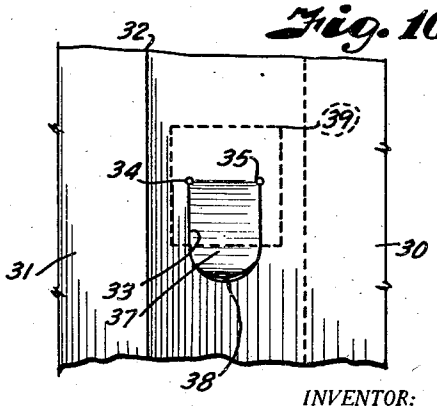


Fig. 10.



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Patented May 1, 1945 2,374,798

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,374,798

ENVELOPE

Eugene B. Berkowitz, Kansas City, Mo., assignor to Tension Envelope Corporation of Kansas City, a corporation of Delaware

Application August 3, 1942, Serial No. 453,321

3 Claims. (Cl. 229—77)

This invention relates to envelopes, particularly of the type having ties for retaining the closure flaps in closed position. Heretofore it has been the practice to attach buttons to the closure flap and body portion of an envelope by means of grummets, one of which forms an anchor for affixing the end of a string or cord that is adapted to be drawn around the respective buttons when the flap is closed to retain an enclosure. This type of envelope is highly satisfactory for retaining heavy enclosures and permits ready opening for inspection purposes, but it is expensive to manufacture.

It is, therefore, the principal object of the present invention to provide a less expensive and simplified construction, and which does not require the use of metal grummets.

Further objects of the invention are to provide the envelope with an integrally formed anchor cooperating with a single button to receive the string when closing the envelope; and to provide for attaching the single button by means of the string.

In accomplishing these and other objects of the invention, as hereinafter pointed out, I have provided improved structure, the preferred form of which is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the closure end of an envelope embodying the features of the present invention showing the closure flap in closed and secured position.

Fig. 2 is a similar view illustrating the flap in open position.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view through the envelope on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4, Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary view of the inner face of the back of the envelope, particularly illustrating the manner of reeving the string.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the closure end portion of a modified form of envelope.

Fig. 7 is a sectional view on the line 7—7, Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a sectional view on the line 8—8, Fig. 6.

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary perspective view of the inner face of the back of the envelope illustrated in Fig. 6, particularly illustrating the string anchoring hook.

Fig. 10 is a fragmentary view of the back of the envelope showing the hook from the face side.

Referring more in detail to the drawings:

1 designates an envelope embodying the features of the present invention and which is folded from a paper or like blank shaped to form a substantially rectangular portion having side and end flaps so that when the blank is folded the rectangular portion constitutes the front 2 of the envelope, the side flaps form the back 3, the lower end flap forms the bottom closure (not shown), and the upper end flap forms the closure flap 4.

The side flaps composing the back are of a combined width greater than the width of the front 2 to provide relatively wide lapping portions 5 and 6 at the center thereof. The lapping portions 5 and 6 are secured together by an adhesive to form a seam and the bottom flap (not shown) is likewise secured to the lower ends of the side flaps by suitable adhesive to complete the back 3 and which cooperates with the front 2 to form a pocket 7 having an insert opening 8 adjacent the upper closure flap 4, the flap 4 being foldable over the back 3 of the envelope to cover the insert opening and be retained, as now to be described.

Superimposed upon the front side of the closure flap 4 is a button 9 which may be a small cardboard disk and located in registry therewith on the inner side of the flap 4 is a reinforcement disk 10. The disks may be of any suitable shape but the button is illustrated as circular and the reinforcement as rectangular.

The disk members just described are attached to the flap 4 by a cord or string 11 that is "stitched" therethrough as at 12, one end 13 of the string extending under a stitch 12 on the button side so it is anchored sufficiently to prevent pulling out of the stitches when a pull is exerted upon the free end 14 of the string which emerges from the reinforcement 10 on the under side of the flap 4, as best shown in Fig. 2. The free end 14 of the string is of sufficient length to extend about an anchoring means 15 formed as an integral part of the back 3 at the seam thereof and thence to be looped between the button 9 and closure flap 4.

The anchoring means shown in Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive is formed by providing the lapping portions 5 and 6 with spaced slits 16 and 17 including downwardly and outwardly directed curved portions 20 and 21 having spaced ends 18 and 19 and connected with upwardly converging slits 22 and 23 which may terminate in spaced apertures 24 and 25, the apertures or notches being of a size to receive the string therein. The slits thus provide oppositely directed wings 26 and 27 having lower ends 28 and 29 thereof located below the ends 18 and 19 of the slits. The wings are preferably pushed slightly outwardly from the plane of the back of the envelope to facilitate passing of the string thereunder. The wings are thus composed of a plurality of plies which

are reinforced by the adhesive securing the lapping portions forming the seam.

In using the envelope, the contents are placed therein and the closure flap 4 is folded over the insert opening 8. The free end 14 of the string is drawn downwardly and passed under the wing 26 and thence under the wing 27 to seat within the aperture 25, after which the string is drawn upwardly over the closure flap 4 and moved about the button 9 so that it passes thereunder. The envelope is readily opened to permit inspection of the contents, or to effect removal thereof by reversing the direction of passing the string.

The form of invention shown in Figs. 6 to 10 is similar with the exception that the lapped portions 30 and 31 of the envelope back 32 have a substantially U shaped slit 33 which may terminate at the ends in apertures or notches 34 and 35 to receive the string 36 when it is passed under the hook-like tongue 37 formed thereby. The tip of the tongue 37 is preferably broken upwardly to provide a lip 38 for facilitating passage of the string thereunder. If the envelope material is thin, the tongue is preferably reinforced on the under face thereof by a patch reinforcement 39 applied to the inner face of the envelope back with a suitable adhesive. The U shaped slit preferably extends through the reinforcement so that the portion of the envelope around the slit is also reinforced.

The wings 26 and 27 of the first form of the invention have sufficient strength because the slits 16 and 17 are not connected. However, when the material from which the envelope is formed is relatively thin, the reinforcement is desirable in the second form of the the invention to assure against upward curling of the tongue.

From the foregoing it is obvious that I have provided an envelope of the type referred to which is simple and inexpensive to construct and which requires no metal.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. An envelope including front and back portions, one of said portions being formed by flaps attached to the other portion and having lapping portions forming a seam of double thickness, an adhesive securing said lapping portions of the flaps together, said envelope having an insert opening extending transversely of the flaps at one end thereof, a closure flap on the corresponding end of said other portion and adapted to be folded over the insert opening to overlie said flaps, a button, a string securing the button to the closure flap in substantial registry with said seam and having a free end, a string anchoring means struck from said seam at a point spaced from said insert opening a distance at least equal to the extent that the closure flap overlies said portion of the envelope formed by the first-mentioned flaps and adapted to be engaged by the free end of the string, said means being of double thickness by reason of the lapping portions of the first-mentioned flaps and reinforced by said adhesive.

2. An envelope including front and back portions, one of said portions being formed by flaps attached to the other portion and having lapping portions forming a seam of double thickness, an adhesive securing said lapping portions of the flaps together, said envelope having an insert opening extending transversely of the flaps at one end thereof, a closure flap on the corresponding end of said other portion and adapted to be folded over the insert opening to overlie said flaps, a button, a string securing the button to the closure flap in substantial registry with said seam and having a free end, laterally spaced wings struck from said seam at points spaced from said insert opening a distance at least equal to the extent that the closure flap overlies said portion of the envelope formed by the first-mentioned flaps and adapted to be engaged by the free end of the string, said wings being of double thickness by reason of the lapping portions of the first-mentioned flaps and reinforced by said adhesive.

3. An envelope including front and back portions, one of said portions being formed by flaps attached to the other portion and having laps forming a seam of double thickness, an adhesive securing said lapping portions of the flaps together, said envelope having an insert opening extending transversely of the flaps at one end thereof, a closure flap on the corresponding end of said other portion and adapted to be folded over the insert opening to overlie said flaps, a button, a string securing the button to the closure flap in substantial registry with said seam and having a free end, said seam having arcuate slits with adjacent ends spaced apart and the opposite ends terminating in converging slits spaced inwardly of the envelope from said insert opening a distance at least equal to the extent that the closure flap overlies said portion of the envelope formed by the first-mentioned flaps to provide laterally spaced wings adapted to be engaged by the free end of the string, said wings being of double thickness by reason of the lapping portions of the first-mentioned flaps and reinforced by said adhesive.

EUGENE B. BERKOWITZ.