

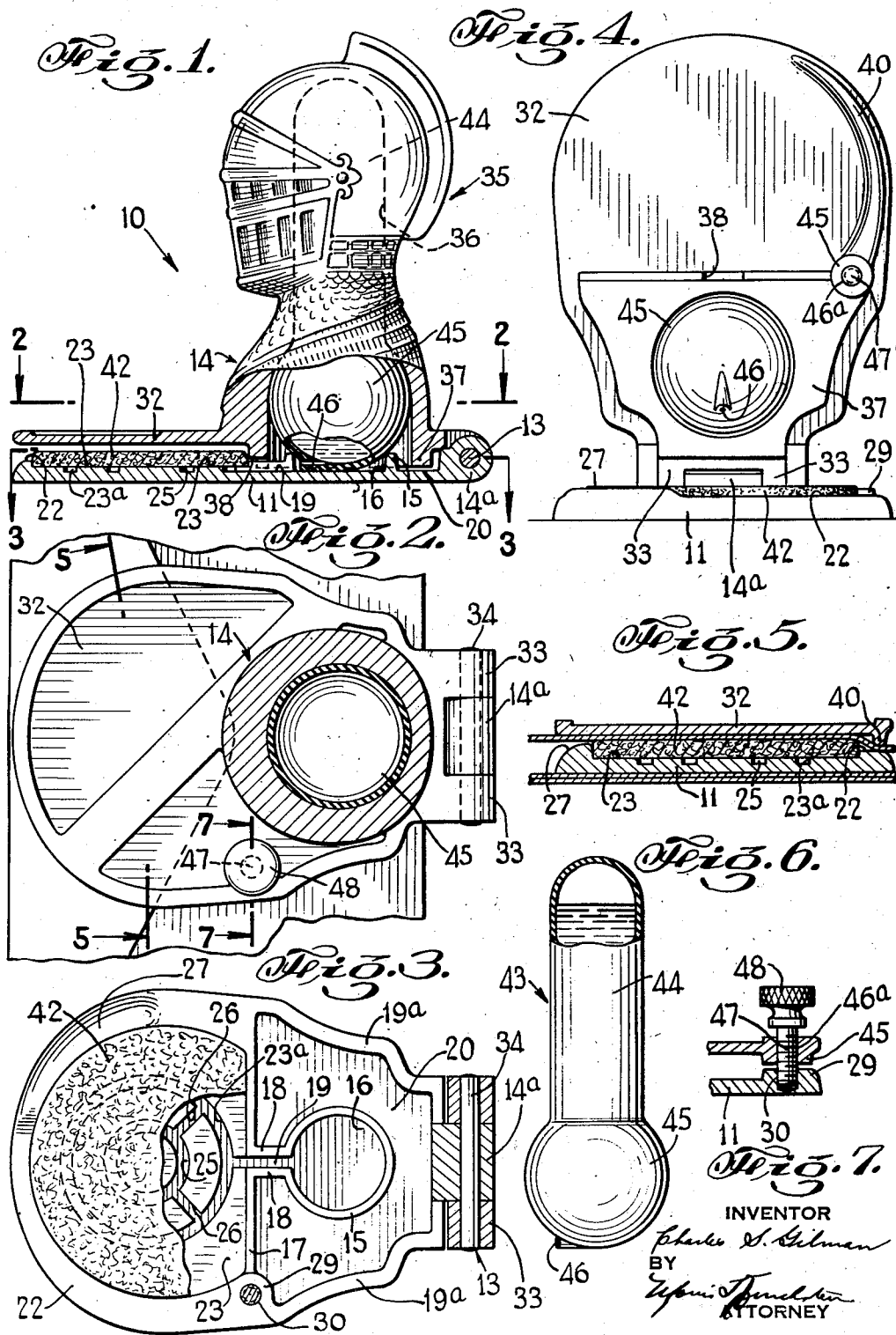
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ENVELOPE SEALING DEVICE

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ENVELOPE SEALING DEVICE

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This invention relates to envelope sealing devices.

An object of this invention is to provide a sealing device of the character described which may be moved relative the sheet to be moistened while the latter is held stationary, said device having a moistened pad and being provided with improved means for guiding the sheet, for example, the flap of an envelope onto a surface of the pad and pressing said flap firmly against the pad to insure proper moistening of the adhesive on the flap.

A further object of this invention is to provide an envelope sealer of the character described having improved means for feeding water to the moistening pad.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a neat, compact and rugged envelope sealer of the character described, which shall be relatively inexpensive to manufacture, comprise few and simple parts, be easy to assemble and manipulate, and which shall yet be attractive in appearance and practical and efficient to a high degree.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope of application will be indicated in the following claims.

In the accompanying drawing, in which is shown one of the various possible embodiments of this invention,

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of an envelope sealer embodying the invention, with parts in cross-section;

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 2-2 of Fig. 1 and showing a portion of the flap and envelope in position for applying moisture thereto;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the bottom plate portion of my improved envelope sealer;

Fig. 4 is a front elevational view of the envelope sealer with the top portion tilted backwards;

Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 5-5 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 6 is a side elevational view of the water containing tube with parts in cross-section; and

Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 7-7 of Fig. 2.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, 10 designates a sealing device embodying the invention, here shown to comprise a bottom plate or mem-

ber 11 having a smooth undersurface and to one end of which there is hinged, as at 13, a top member 14. The bottom member 11 may be made of metal or any other suitable material and is provided at one end thereof with a tubular portion 14a forming part of the hinge 13. Adjacent the hinged end thereof, the top surface of the member 11 is formed with a split, circular or cylindrical wall 15 forming a trough 16. The upper surface of the member 11 is furthermore formed with aligned, transverse wall portions 17, the inner ends of which are spaced from one another and interconnected to the cylindrical wall 15 by parallel wall portions 18 forming a passage 19 communicating with the trough 16. The plate 11 is furthermore formed with side edges 19a interconnecting the rear end thereof with the outer ends of wall portions 17 and forming a depressed surface 20 surrounding the split cylindrical wall 15. The front portion of the plate 11 may be of substantially semi-circular shape and is provided with a substantially semi-circular wall 22 around the edge thereof, merging with the wall portions 19a and 17.

The upper surface 23 of plate 11 formed between the wall 22 and the wall portions 17 is preferably of a somewhat higher level than the level of the trough 16. The surface 23, however, is formed with a circular recess or groove 23a communicating with the passage 19 and with an inner concentric circular recess or groove 25 communicating with the recess 23a through radial interconnecting passages or grooves 26. Received within the depression 23 is a flat moistening pad 42 of any suitable water absorbing or spongy material, overlying and covering the recesses 23a, 25 and 26.

For the purpose hereinafter appearing, one side of the wall 22 is raised, as at 27, and curved upwardly and inwardly as shown in Fig. 5 of the drawing to form a guide. At the junction of one of the wall portions 17 and the wall 22 there is formed a boss 29 provided with a screw threaded opening 30, for the purpose hereinafter appearing.

The member 14 is provided with a plate portion 32 adapted to overlie and having substantially the same outline as the member 11, and is formed at the rear end thereof with a pair of tubular portions 33 received on opposite sides of the top portion 14 and receiving therethrough a pin 34 passing through said tubular portion 14a and forming the hinge 13. Extending upwardly from the plate 32 is a casing 35 which may be of ornamental outer shape, here shown for the purpose of illustra-

tion only, as the head and shoulders of an armored knight. Said casing 35 is formed with a tubular chamber 36 aligned with the trough 16, said chamber being enlarged at the bottom end, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing. Extending downwardly from the plate portion 32 is a skirted portion 37 received within the depressed portion 20, said portion being notched, as at 38, for receiving the wall portions 18. The front of the plate 32 is likewise substantially semi-circular in shape and the undersurface thereof on the side remote from the cammed projection 27 is formed with a downwardly extending guide or cam 40, for the purpose hereinafter appearing.

Removably received within the chamber 36 is a water reservoir or receptacle, such as a rubber bulb 43 having a tubular portion 44 and a bulbous or spherical portion 45 at the bottom thereof, formed with a small opening 46. The bulbous portion 45 is adapted to rest on the cylindrical wall 15, with the opening 46 projecting within the trough 16.

The plate 32 is formed with a boss 45 aligned with the boss 29 on the lower plate 11 and having a through screw threaded opening 46a receiving a screw 47. Said screw 47 is preferably formed with a head 48 for finger manipulation, and the bottom of said screw is adapted to engage the threaded opening 30. It will now be understood that when the screw 47 is turned to disengage the bottom end thereof from the threaded opening 30, the upper member 14 may be swung about the hinge 13. When the member 14 is lowered, the screw 47 may be turned for screwing the bottom end within the opening 30 and to lock the members 11 and 14. Ordinarily water within the bulb 43 will not flow through the opening 46. However, when the device 10 is shaken or moved, drops will pass through the opening into the trough 16 and thence pass through the passage 19 to the passages 23a, 25 and 26 for wetting the pad 42.

The upper surface of the pad is preferably on the level of the upper edge of the cam 27, whereas the lower edge of the cam 40 is below the upper surface of the pad and substantially contacts the wall 22. The flap of an envelope may be moistened by moving the device 10 and holding the flap stationary, and in substantially closed position, lifted sufficiently to permit the bottom plate to move between the flap and body of the envelope. Thus the device may be held by grasping the casing 35 and moved so that the left edge of the flap is received between the cam 27 and the underside of the plate 32. The device may then be moved from right to left, the flap being guided by cam or guide 27 onto the upper surface of the pad 42. Upon moving the device 10 to the left, the flap will engage the undersurface of the cam 40 and thus be pressed firmly down against the pad as the device is moved off the flap. The inner end of the cam portion 27 preferably terminates short of and is spaced from the adjacent end of the cam 40 whereby the flap of the envelope may be tightly pressed against the upper surface of the moistened pad 42. The undersurface of the flap having the adhesive thereon is thus thoroughly moistened. The flap may then be fully closed and the sealing member placed on top of said flap and moved from side to side and pressed down for tightly sealing said flap. Said sealing member may be readily manipulated by grasping the head of the knighted figure or the upper portion of the casing 35. As the sealing device is moved, drops may flow through the

opening in the reservoir into the trough 16 one drop at a time.

The bulb 43, may of course, be removed for refilling with water by first turning the screw 47 sufficiently to disengage the same from the lower plate 11. The member 14 may then be swung rearwardly and the bulb readily withdrawn.

Obviously, sheets other than envelope flaps may be moistened by my improved sealing device. The device 10 may also be used for moistening stamps, labels and the like, by tilting the member 14 back until the head rests on the table, to expose the pad.

It will thus be seen that there is provided a device in which the several objects of this invention are achieved, and which is well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use.

As various possible embodiments might be made of the above invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiment set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawing is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A sealing device comprising a bottom plate, a top plate hinged to the bottom plate, and adapted to be swung to overlying position relative to said bottom plate, a casing extending upwardly from said top plate open at the bottom and forming a chamber communicating with the underside of said top plate, a water reservoir disposed within said chamber, and removable from the bottom open end thereof, and having an opening at the bottom end thereof, and a pad on the bottom plate adapted to receive water from said reservoir.

2. A sealing device comprising a bottom plate, a top plate hinged to the bottom plate, a casing extending upwardly from said top plate and formed with a chamber communicating with the underside of said top plate, a bulb disposed within said chamber and having an aperture at the bottom end thereof, the upper surface of said bottom plate being formed with a trough receiving the apertured end of said bulb, and a pad on said bottom plate, said bottom plate being formed with means for conveying water from said trough to said pad.

3. A sealing device comprising a plate, a pad mounted on the upper surface of said plate, a second plate hinged to said first plate and adapted to be swung to overlying position relative to said first plate, said second plate being formed with a screw threaded opening, a screw screwed within said opening, and said bottom plate being formed with a threaded opening for receiving said screw, whereby said plates may be locked together, said plates being spaced in locked condition to permit a sheet to be inserted between said pad and said second plate.

4. In a sealing device, a plate formed with a trough, said plate being further formed with a depressed surface, a pad received within said depressed surface, said depressed surface being formed with recesses communicating with said trough, and a second plate hinged to said first plate and overlying the same, and means on said second plate for feeding water to said trough.

5. A sealing device comprising a bottom plate, a top plate hinged at the rear end thereof to the rear end of said bottom plate, said bottom plate being formed on the upper surface thereof with a split cylindrical wall forming a trough, said

plate being further formed with a depressed surface, a sealing pad received within said depressed surface, a passage interconnecting said trough with said depressed surface, said upper plate
5 being formed with a chamber, a bulb received within said chamber and having an aperture the apertured portion of said bulb projecting into said trough for feeding water thereto.

6. A sealing device comprising a bottom plate,
10 a top plate hinged at the rear end thereof to the rear end of said bottom plate, said bottom plate being formed on the upper surface thereof with a split cylindrical wall forming a trough, said plate being further formed with a depressed
15 portion, a sealing pad received within said depressed portion, a passage interconnecting said trough with said depressed portion, said upper plate being formed with a casing, a bulb received
20 within said casing and having an opening, the portion of said bulb formed with the opening overlying said trough for feeding water thereto, and means for locking said plates against pivotal movement.

7. A sealing device comprising upper and lower
25 superimposed plates, a pad on said lower plate and between said plates, a guide on said lower plate for guiding a sheet to the upper surface of said pad, and a guide on said upper plate for pressing said sheet down against said upper surface
30 of said pad, a casing on said upper plate having a chamber communicating with the underside of said plate, and a receptacle for water removably received within said chamber.

8. A sealing device comprising upper and lower
35 superimposed plates, a pad on said lower plate and between said plates, a guide on said lower plate for guiding a sheet to the upper surface of said pad, and a guide on said upper plate for pressing said sheet down against said upper surface
40 of said pad, a casing on said upper plate having a chamber communicating with the underside of said plate, and a receptacle for water removably received within said chamber, said receptacle being collapsible and having an
45 opening, and said lower plate having a trough on the upper surface thereof for receiving water passing through said opening and means for conveying the water in said trough to said pad.

9. A sealing device comprising a bottom plate,
50 a top plate hinged to the bottom plate, and adapted to be swung to overlying position relative to said bottom plate, a casing extending upwardly from said top plate open at the bottom and forming a chamber communicating with the
55 underside of said top plate, a water reservoir disposed within said chamber removable from the open bottom end of said chamber, said reservoir having an opening at the bottom end thereof, and a pad mounted on said bottom plate and
60 disposed between said plates, said plates being spaced to receive a sheet inserted between said pad and said top plate.

10. A sealing device comprising a bottom plate,
65 a top plate hinged to the bottom plate, and adapted to be swung to overlying position relative to said bottom plate, a casing extending up-

wardly from said top plate and formed with a chamber communicating with the underside of said top plate, a water reservoir disposed within said chamber and having an opening at the bottom end thereof, said bottom plate having a
5 trough beneath said opening, a pad on said bottom plate adapted to receive water from said trough and means for releasably locking said plates against relative movement.

11. A sealing device comprising a pair of super-
10 imposed hinged plates, a pad on one of said plates and disposed between said plates, said other plate being formed with a chamber and a water receptacle removably mounted in said chamber, and adapted to deposit water on said
15 first plate, said first plate having means for conveying water to said pad.

12. A sealing device comprising a pair of super-
20 imposed hinged plates, a pad on one of said plates and disposed between said plates, said other plate being formed with a chamber and a water receptacle removably mounted in said chamber and adapted to deposit water on said first plate, said
25 first plate having means for conveying water to said pad, said receptacle being made of rubber and having a single opening.

13. A sealing device comprising a pair of super-
30 imposed hinged plates, a pad on one of said plates and disposed between said plates, said other plate being formed with a chamber, and a water receptacle removably mounted in said chamber, and adapted to deposit water on said first plate, said
35 first plate having means for conveying water to said pad, said receptacle being made of rubber and having a single opening, and means for releasably locking said plates against relative movement.

14. A sealing device comprising a bottom member, a top member hinged at the rear end there-
40 of to the rear end of said bottom member, said bottom member being formed on the upper surface thereof with a trough, and being further formed with a depressed surface, a pad received
45 within said depressed surface, a passage interconnecting said trough with said depressed surface, said upper member being formed with a chamber, a bulb received within said chamber and having an aperture, the apertured portion of
50 said bulb projecting into said trough for feeding water thereto.

15. A sealing device comprising a bottom member, a top member hinged at the rear end thereof
55 to the rear end of said bottom member, said bottom member being formed on the upper surface thereof with a trough, and being further formed with a depressed portion, a pad received
60 within said depressed portion, a passage interconnecting said trough with said depressed portion, said upper member being formed with a casing, a bulb received within said casing and having an opening, the portion of said bulb
65 formed with the opening overlying said trough for feeding water thereto, and means for locking said members against pivotal movement.

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