May 4, 1943. G. T. ARNOLD 2,318,278

ENVELOPE

Filed June 19, 1942 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

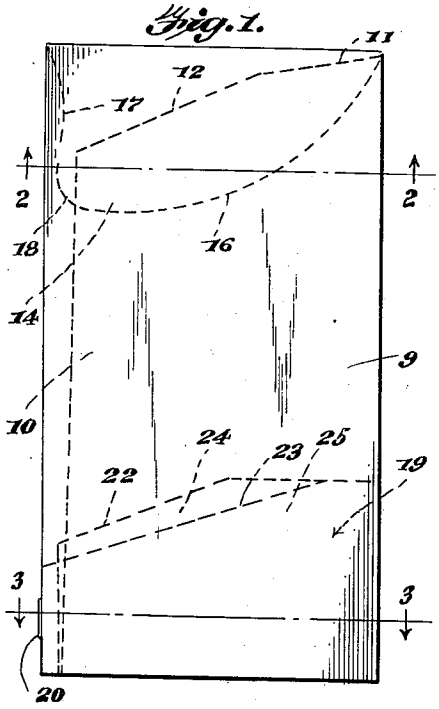


Fig. 2.

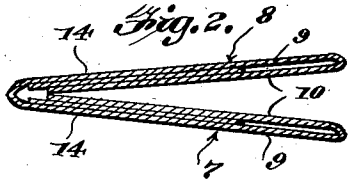


Fig. 3.

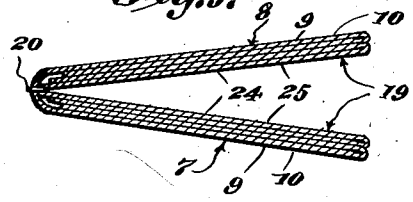


Fig. 5.

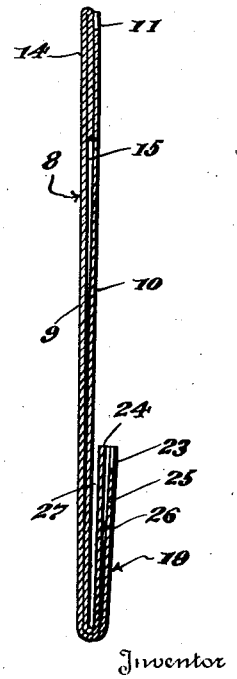
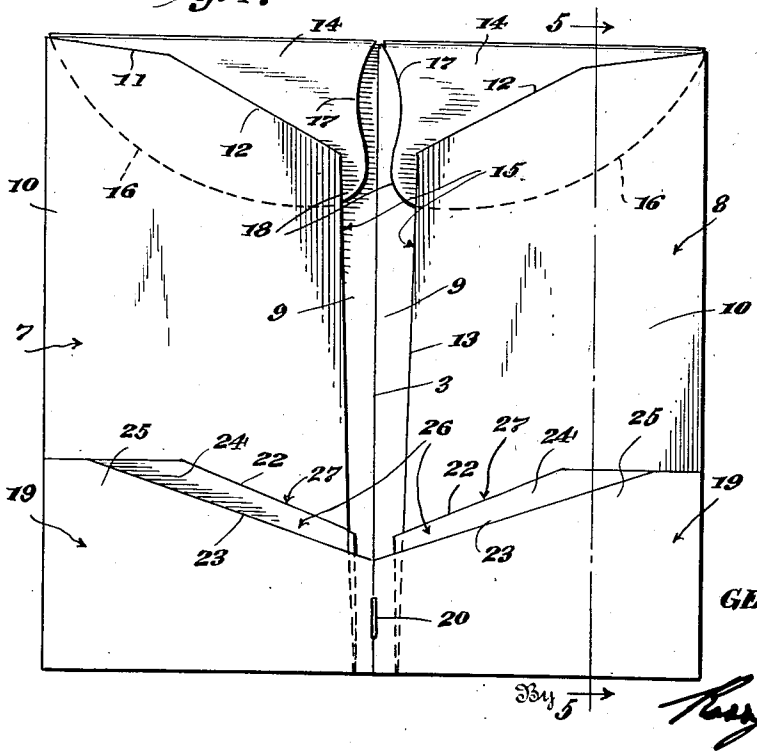


Fig. 4.



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Fig. 6.

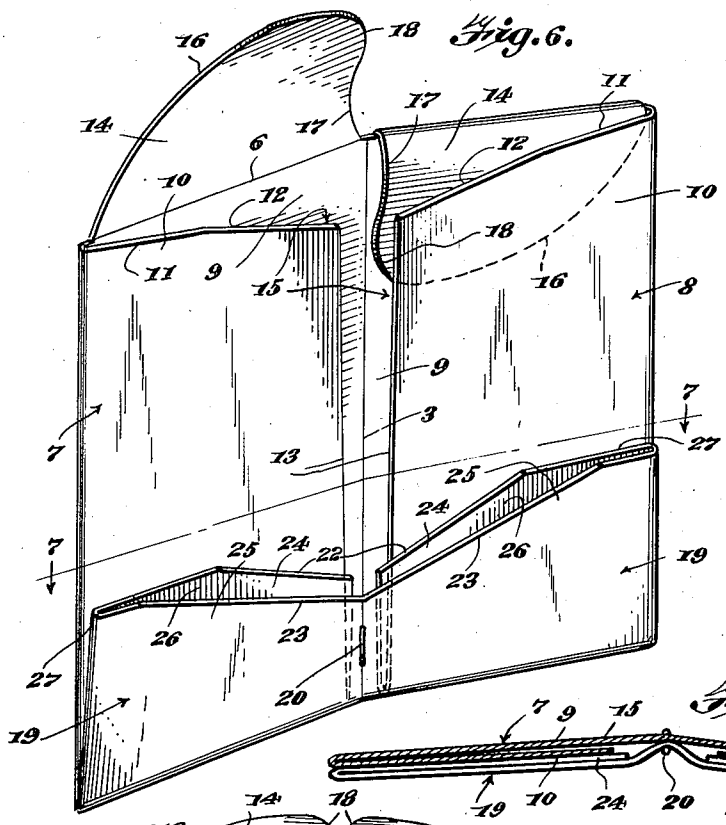


Fig. 7.

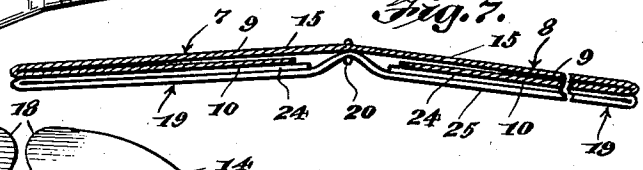
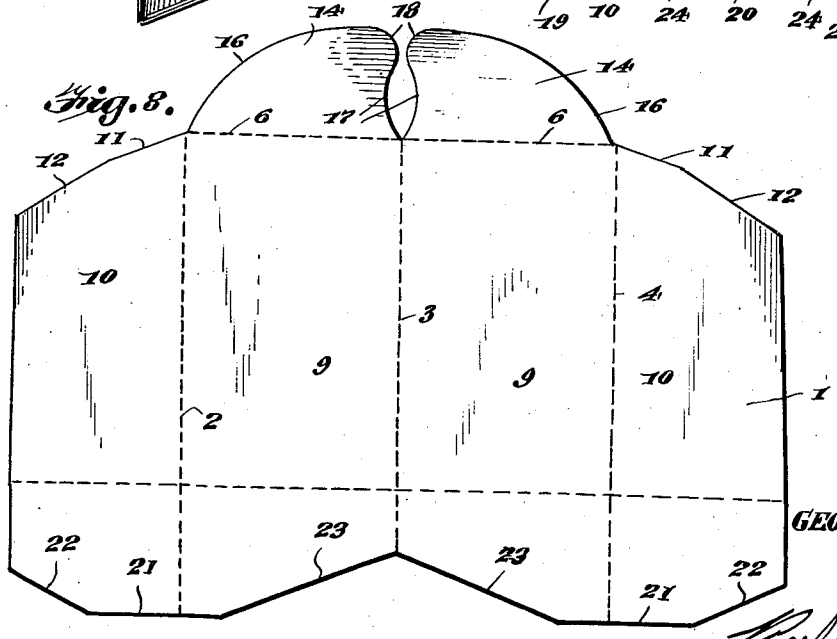


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ENVELOPE

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Application June 19, 1942, Serial No. 447,704

6 Claims. (Cl. 229—72)

This invention relates to an envelope or paper container and while the device is preferably formed of paper it is to be understood that it may be formed from a sheet of other thin material capable of being easily folded to form a container of the improved construction.

One object of the invention is to provide a container which resembles an envelope and may be used as a holder for papers, cards, tickets, and the like to be carried in a pocket or handbag without likelihood of being soiled, rumpled or lost.

Another object of the invention is to provide a container formed from a single sheet of material so folded that it forms interconnected sections which may be easily moved to open or closed position and may be used as a container to be placed in a pocket or handbag or used as an envelope for matter to be sent through the mail.

Another object of the invention is to provide an envelope or container consisting of companion sections movable to open or closed positions and each having a plurality of pockets into which cards, papers, or the like may be easily inserted or removed.

Another object of the invention is to so arrange the pockets that papers may be easily inserted or removed from one pocket without disturbing papers in other pockets.

Another object of the invention is to provide a container having its pockets so arranged that when used for sending advertising matter through the mails, the contents of the pockets may be inspected without breaking a stamp or gummed paper seal holding the sections closed and preventing the advertising matter from dropping out of the pockets and becoming lost.

Another object of the invention is to provide certain of the pockets with closure flaps which can be easily moved to open position but will not be liable to accidentally move to open position.

Another object of the invention is to provide an envelope or container which is simple in construction, cheap to manufacture, and capable of being sold at low cost.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a view showing the container or envelope closed.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

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

Fig. 4 is a view showing the envelope opened.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken longitudinally through one section of the envelope on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the opened envelope.

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

Fig. 8 is a view of the blank from which the envelope is formed.

The improved envelope or container constituting the subject matter of this invention is formed from a blank shown in Fig. 8. This blank 1 may be of paper or other thin sheet material adapted to be creased and folded along lines 2, 3 and 4, and then folded along lines 5 and 6. When the blank is folded along lines 2 and 4, there are formed two sections 7 and 8 which are foldable along line 3 to closed position. Each of the sections 7 and 8 has an outer main wall 9 and an inner auxiliary wall 10, the upper ends of the walls 10 being cut, as shown at 11 and 12, to provide the inner auxiliary walls with diagonally extending upper edges spaced from upper ends of the outer walls 9. It is to be noted that the free side edges 13 of the auxiliary walls are spaced from the fold line 3 so that the auxiliary walls of the sections are of less width than the main walls thereof and do not interfere with folding of the sections to closed position when papers and the like are placed in pockets of the two sections. Flaps 14 at upper ends of the main walls constitute closures for upper ends of pockets 15 defined by the walls 9 and 10 and are foldable downwardly along the fold lines 6 to closed position within the pockets to prevent contents of the pockets from slipping out and being lost. These flaps are of special configuration and have arcuate free end edges 16 extending diagonally at an upward incline from the upper ends of the fold lines 2 and 4 or outer side edges of the main walls 9. The inner side edges 17 of the flaps extend upwardly from the fold line 3 and are arcuate inwardly of the flaps with their upper ends merging into rounded corners 18 of the flaps. By so forming the flaps and upper end edges of the auxiliary walls, the flaps may be easily tucked into upper ends of pockets 15 to closed position and since the arcuate inwardly bowed side edges 17 will then be spaced from the fold line 3 or inner side edges of the main walls 9, a person may easily engage a finger under an inner side edge of a flap and pull the flap outwardly and upwardly to extended or open position. During outward movement of the flaps, their rounded corners 18 and arcuate edges 16 will slide past upper edges of the auxiliary walls 10 without catching.

After the blank has been folded to form the side sections 7 and 8, lower end portions of these sections are folded upwardly to form auxiliary sections 19 and a clip or staple 20 is passed through the upturned portions of the blank along the fold line 3 to hold the auxiliary sections in position in overlying relation to lower portions of the sections 7 and 8. The lower end of the blank has straight cut portions extending in crossing relation to lower ends of the fold lines 2 and 4 and diagonally extended portions 22 and 23, the portions 22 extending from outer ends of portions 21 to lower ends of side edges of the blank and portions 23 extending from inner ends of portions 21 to the lower end of the fold line 3. When the lower portions of sections 7 and 8 are folded upwardly along fold line 5 to form the auxiliary sections 19, these auxiliary sections have inner and outer walls 24 and 25 having diagonally extending upper edge portions formed by the diagonally extending portions 22 and 23 of the lower edge of the blank and, by referring to Figs. 4 and 6, it will be seen that the diagonally extending edges 23 of the outer walls 25 are spaced downwardly from the diagonally extending edges 22 of the inner walls 24. Therefore, portions of the inner walls 24 project upwardly above portions of the outer walls 25 and papers, cards, tickets, and the like, may be easily thrust into pockets 26 defined by the walls 24 and 25. In addition to forming inner walls for the pockets 26, the walls 24 also cooperate with lower portions of the walls 10 to form pockets 27. It will thus be seen that the container consists of companion sections 7 and 8 having auxiliary sections 19 carried thereby, said sections defining main pockets 15, auxiliary pockets 26, and intermediate pockets 27 between the main and auxiliary pockets.

This improved container may be used as an envelope or folder for carrying cards, papers, and the like, in a coat pocket or handbag, or it may be used for advertising purposes, in which case circulars or other advertising matter may be placed in the various pockets of the container, the sections 7 and 8 then folded to closed position, and a stamp or strip of gummed paper applied to hold the sections in closed position. An address may be written, typed, or otherwise inscribed on the outer face of a main wall 9 and the container then sent through the mails in the usual manner.

Since the container is open along one side, except for the gummed strip, and the flaps 14 may be withdrawn for postal inspection, the containers and advertising matter therein, may be mailed as printed matter. When the container is received and the advertising matter removed from the pockets, the container may be discarded, or, if formed of a good grade of paper, thin leather, or the like, the container may be preserved and used as an envelope container by the person receiving the same. It is to be understood that the container may be of any dimensions desired and that its use is not limited to cards or tickets as it may be used as a file for holding letters, legal documents and the like.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

1. An envelope comprising companion main sections integrally united along their inner side edges and foldable from open position to closed position, each section having an outer main wall and an inner auxiliary wall and defining a main pocket open at its upper end and along its inner side edge and closed along its outer side edge, lower portions of said sections being folded upwardly and forming auxiliary sections having inner and outer walls defining auxiliary pockets open at their upper ends and along their inner side edges and closed along their outer side edges, and the inner walls of the auxiliary sections cooperating with inner walls of the main sections to form intermediate pockets closed at their lower ends open at their upper ends and along their side edges.

2. An envelope comprising companion main sections united along their inner side edges and foldable from open position to closed position, each section having an outer main wall and an inner auxiliary wall and defining a main pocket open at its upper end and along its inner side edge and closed along its outer side edge, lower portions of said sections being folded upwardly and forming auxiliary sections having inner and outer walls defining auxiliary pockets open at their upper ends and along their inner side edges and closed along their outer side edges and at their lower ends, the inner walls of the auxiliary sections cooperating with inner walls of the main sections to form intermediate pockets closed at their lower ends and open at their upper ends and along their side edges, the inner and outer walls of the auxiliary sections having portions of their upper edges extending diagonally at a downward incline toward their inner side edges, and the diagonally extending edges of the outer walls of the auxiliary sections being spaced downwardly from the diagonally extending edges of the inner walls thereof to permit easy insertion and removal of material from the pockets of the auxiliary sections.

3. An envelope comprising companion main sections united along their inner side edges and foldable from open position to closed position, each section having an outer main wall and an inner auxiliary wall cooperating with each other and defining a main pocket open at its upper end and closed along their outer side edges, lower portions of said sections being folded upwardly to close lower ends of the pockets and forming auxiliary sections having inner and outer walls defining auxiliary pockets open at their upper ends and along their inner side edges and closed at their lower ends and along their outer side edges, and flaps for closing upper ends of the main pockets carried by upper ends of the outer walls of the main sections, upper edges of the inner walls of the main sections having portions extending diagonally at a downward incline toward their inner side edges, and said flaps being of a length adapting them to be tucked into pockets of the main sections and each having an arcuate upper edge extending at an upward incline from the outer side edge of the outer wall and an arcuate inner side edge bowed inwardly from its lower end and at its upper end merging into a rounded corner forming a continuation of the arcuate upper edges of the flap.

4. An envelope comprising a sheet of material folded midway its width to provide main sections, each main section being folded midway its width to form main pockets having inner and outer walls united along their outer side edges and free along their inner side edges and at their upper ends, the lower portion of the folded sheet being folded upwardly and forming auxiliary sections having inner and outer walls defining auxiliary pockets closed along their outer side edges and open at their upper ends and along

their inner side edges, means at the center fold of the sheet for holding the auxiliary sections in overlying relation to lower portions of the main sections, and tongues extending from the upper edge of the sheet at upper ends of the outer walls of the main pockets and folded to form closure flaps for upper ends of the main pockets.

5. An envelope comprising a sheet of material folded midway its width to provide main sections, each main section being folded midway its width to form main pockets having inner and outer walls united along their outer side edges and free along their inner side edges and at their upepr ends, the lower portion of the folded sheet being folded upwardly and forming auxiliary sections having inner and outer walls defining auxiliary pockets closed along their outer side edges and open at their upper ends and along their inner side edges, means at the center fold of the sheet for holding the auxiliary sections in overlying relation to lower portions of the main sections, and tongues extending from the upper edge of the sheet at upper ends of the outer walls of the main pockets and folded to form closure flaps for upper ends of the main pockets, the portions of the sheet forming inner walls of the main pockets being cut diagonally at a downward incline toward their free inner side edges, and the flaps having outwardly bowed arcuate upper edges extending at an upward incline from the outer side edges of the outer walls of the main pockets, and inner side edges being arcuate and bowed inwardly and at their upper ends merging into rounded corners of the flaps.

6. An envelope comprising a sheet of material folded midway its width to provide main sections, each main section being folded midway its width to form main pockets having inner and outer walls united along their outer side edges and free along their inner side edges and at their upper ends, the lower portion of the folded sheet being folded upwardly and forming auxiliary sections having inner and outer walls defining auxiliary pockets closed along their outer side edges and open at their upper ends and along their inner side edges, means at the center fold of the sheet for holding the auxiliary sections in overlying relation to lower portions of the main sections, and tongues extending from the upper edge of the sheet at upper ends of the outer walls of the main pockets and folded to form closure flaps for upper ends of the main pockets, the lower edge of the sheet having portions cut straight across and other portions extending diagonally between ends of the straight cut portions and inner side edges of the walls of the auxiliary pockets, the diagonally extending portions of the upper ends of the outer walls of the auxiliary pockets being spaced downwardly from the diagonally extending portions of the inner side walls thereof.

GEORGE T. ARNOLD.