March 5, 1957 D. MERCUR 2,783,935

CONTINUOUS STRIP ENVELOPE

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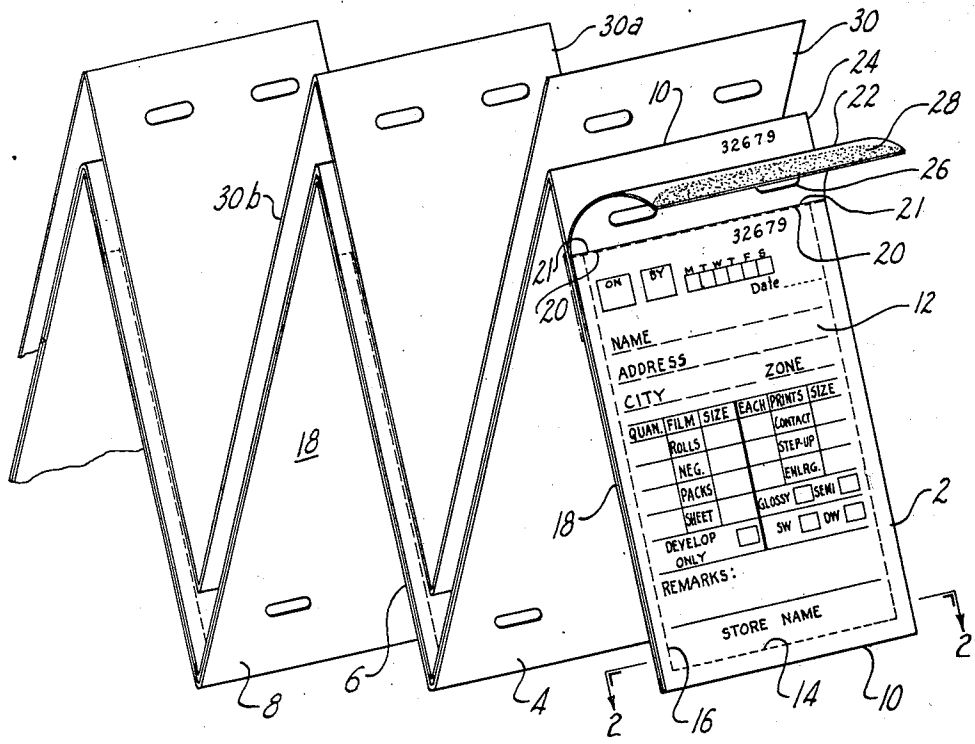


Fig. 1

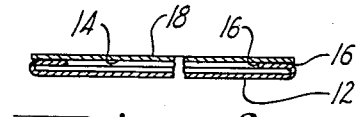


Fig. 2

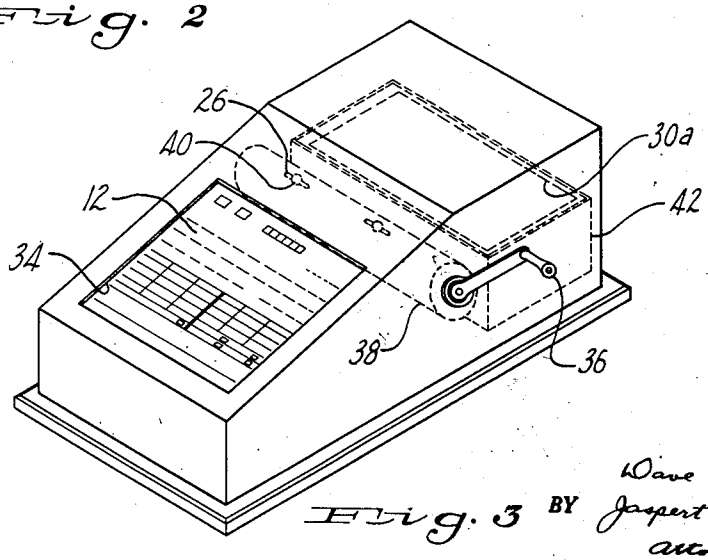


Fig. 3

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CONTINUOUS STRIP ENVELOPE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 229—69)

This invention relates to joined envelopes formed in a continuous strip for use in a multiple sheet register recording machine and additionally to folded record sheet used in conjunction with the envelopes.

It is the object of my invention to provide a series of joined envelopes that can be used in a standard multiple sheet register recording machine which will hereinafter be referred to as an autographic register. These envelopes are intended primarily for use in handling photographic orders in a photographer's supply store wherein an envelope is provided for future delivery of the printed pictures and return of the negatives, which will properly identify a customer by name and address and also give other data necessary to facilitate handling a customer's order. At the same time, part of the envelope is formed with a detachable coupon which can be given to the customer to properly identify the negatives or other material submitted with the order to the photographer's shop.

It is the further object of my invention to provide a convenient envelope which is provided with a closeable flap after the coupon portion of the envelope is removed and given to the customer.

It is a further object of my invention to supply record sheets of proper size to be used in conjunction with the envelopes herein described so that a record can be kept of each transaction by inserting a carbon sheet between the record sheet and the envelopes when the envelopes and sheets are installed in a standard autographic register. I am aware that combinations of envelopes and record sheets have previously been used. However, these are not formed in a continuous strip and adapted for use in an autographic register. It may be seen that my invention provides a convenient way to supply a container for handling orders of photographic materials and at the same time supplying a proper identification on the container itself and a detachable coupon slip which upon being torn off and given to the customer, further facilitates the forming of the envelope.

In addition to these advantages, a permanent record sheet may conveniently be formed by inserting a record sheet and a carbon sheet immediately behind the envelope when it is in the autographic register.

Although I am describing this envelope and record sheet primarily for use in conjunction with a photographic supply business, it will be obviously used by those acquainted with commercial businesses requiring similar envelopes, coupons and records, such as jewelry stores and others which take information and material from the customer and deliver it to him in finished form at a later date. In the accompanying drawings there is illustrated one embodiment and one method of using my invention:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a series of envelopes folded and joined together in an end-to-end fashion with its accompanying record sheet.

Figure 2 is a section view of a single envelope taken along the line 2—2 of Figure 1 showing the edge construction of the envelope.

Figure 3 is a schematic showing of an autographic register with the envelope installed in a position in which it will be ready for use in a photographic supply shop.

Referring now to Figure 1, it may be seen that the envelopes which are used in my invention are formed of two plain strips of paper having severing perforations that are used to divide the two strips into individual envelopes such as the folded envelopes 2, 4, 6 and 8. Going now to the first envelope 2, it will be seen that this envelope is formed above the severing perforation 10 by having the bottom end sealed at 14 and the side edge of either of the strips (but not both) folded over and sealed at 16 for a major portion of the length of the envelope. The top end of the envelope, of course, is left open and is provided with a coupon sheet 24, which is a part of the rear strip 18 which forms the back of the envelope.

Coupon sheet 24 is ordinarily identified with its respective envelope and is usually given to the customer. However, sheet 24 may be merely a waste sheet to be torn off to expose the gum flap next to be described.

The upper part of the front strip 12 is also free at the top to form a flap portion of the envelope 22 by having a gummed portion 28 formed thereon. The coupon is conveniently provided with an intermediate transverse perforation 20 on the rear strip 18 which may be used to remove the coupon from the rear of the envelope and allow the flap which is scored at 21 to be folded over the body of the envelope after it has been removed from an autographic register machine. Also illustrated in Figure 1, are folded record sheets 30 which are conveniently adapted to be inserted behind the envelopes when they are used in an autographic register machine.

It will be seen that the front side of the envelope 2 is inscribed with ruled portions which conveniently permits the data necessary to conduct the business to be written thereon. Also shown in Figure 1 are slotted holes 26 which are so placed as to be adapted to fit on pins or teeth that are placed in the platen drive in the autographic register and permit the envelope to be positively pulled through the register machine after proper information has been written on the front of the envelope.

Referring now to Figure 3 which shows the schematic arrangement of a conventional autographic register having the top strip 12 inserted in opening 34 so that the lower portion of the envelope may be inscribed for identification with a particular order. Figure 3 also shows slots 26 of the envelope engaged by pins or teeth 40, which are placed on platen 38 and adapted to engage holes 26 of the envelope when it is properly installed in the machine. Platen 38 is provided with a crank 36 which may conveniently be used to rotate the platen and the autographic register is also provided with a hidden receptacle 42 which may be used to receive the flat recoord sheets. Although the method of operating and using my envelopes is almost self-evident to those familiar with the operation of autographic register machines, the method of using the envelopes will be described. The envelopes 2, 4, 6, 8, etc., are conveniently folded in the manner shown in Figure 1 so that the top end of one envelope immediately joins the bottom end of the next adjacent envelope at a severing portion 10 so that they may be compressed in a compact stack for insertion in the autographic register machine. Flat record sheets 30 may also be folded immediately behind a series of envelopes so that they may cooperate with the envelopes when they are placed in an operative position in the autographic record machine and form a permanent record to be kept by the store. It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that the flat record sheets may be omitted if desired or more than one record sheet may be used in conjunction with the folded envelopes.

The envelopes are then inserted in the autographic

record register such as shown in Figure 3 and the top envelope **2** is placed with the inscribed side **12** upward in opening **34** so that it is ready to receive proper written information to be placed thereon by the store clerk. When the customer has given the proper information needed for an order, crank **36** of the autographic register is rotated and pins **40** which engage the holes **26** in the envelope, pull the envelope forward so that it can be removed from the other envelopes by being torn along perforation **10**. Simultaneously with this operation, the next adjacent envelope such as envelope 4 of Figure 1, is pulled by the bottom of the envelope **2** into operative position in opening **34** of the autographic register. The flat record sheet immediately behind top envelope **2** falls, or is otherwise received, in container **42** which is in the upper portion of the register.

After the envelope **2** has been removed from the register machine, the coupon portion **24**, which is suitably identified with its respective envelope **2** by appropriate serial number or other identification means, is torn along the perforation portion **20** of rear strip **18** and handed to the customer so that he can identify this particular transaction upon his return to the shop at a later date. The customer's negatives and other information are then conveniently inserted in the pocket formed in the envelope between the sealed bottom portion **14** and the sealed edge portions **16**; flap portion **22** may then be folded over to help retain the material in the inside pocket of the envelope. Upon final delivery to the customer, of course, flap **22** may be sealed so as to overlap the pocket of the envelope after moistening the gummed portion **28**.

I claim the following:

A continuous series of envelopes for use in a multiple record autographic register machine joined together end to end in a strip, said envelopes consisting of a plurality of superposed sheets that are sealed at their bottom and side edges to form a pocket, the top and bottom ends of adjacent envelopes being separated by a line of perforations, one of said sheets having an additional line of perforations spaced from the top end of the envelope forming a single severable coupon portion, a gummed portion on the other of said sheets immediately above said coupon portion which when exposed by removal of the coupon portion provides a sealing flap for the envelope, said sheets having registering slotted holes in the said coupon portion of said envelopes at the top for engaging a drive of the autographic register machine to pull the sheets through the machine.

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