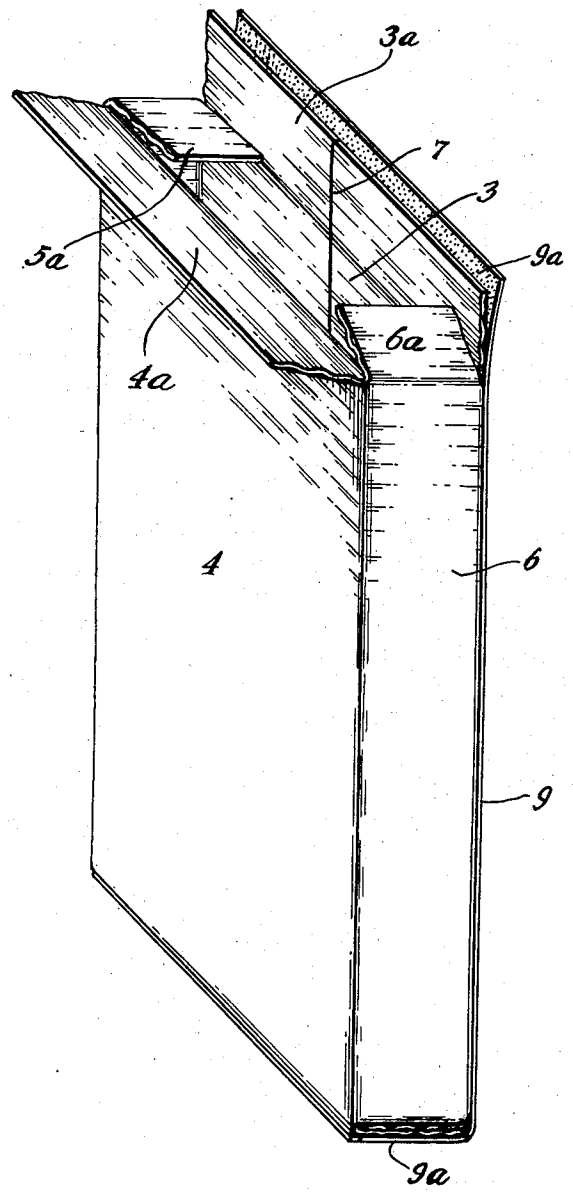
June 24, 1958 J. S. DAVIS 2,840,294

MAILING CONTAINER

Filed March 3, 1955 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.



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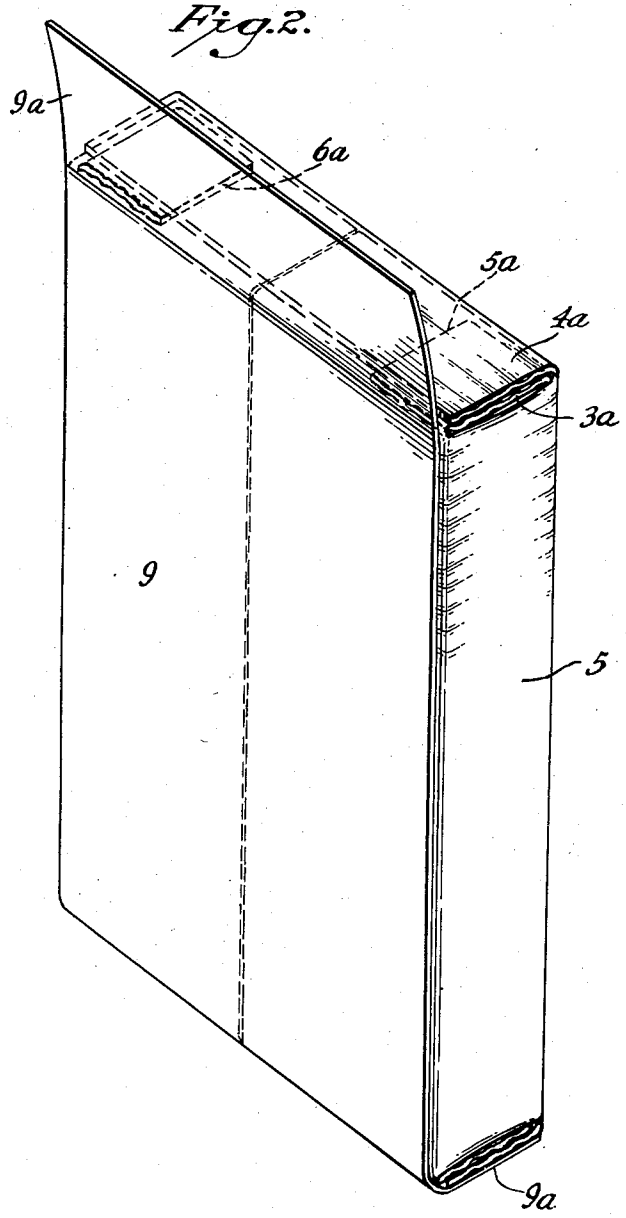
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Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

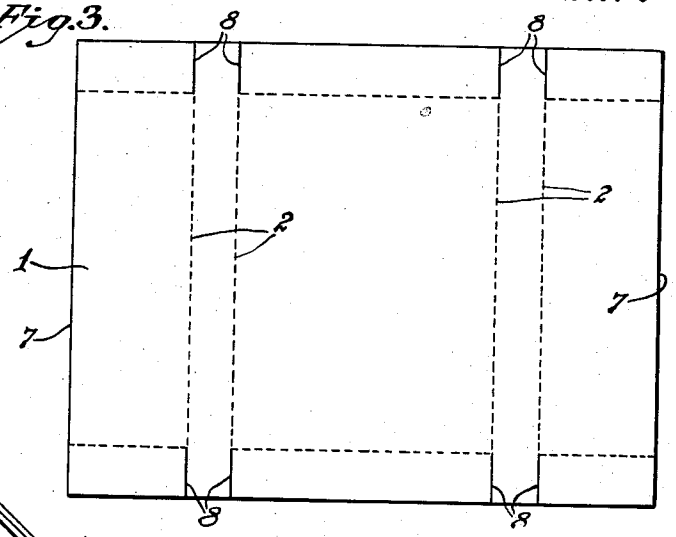
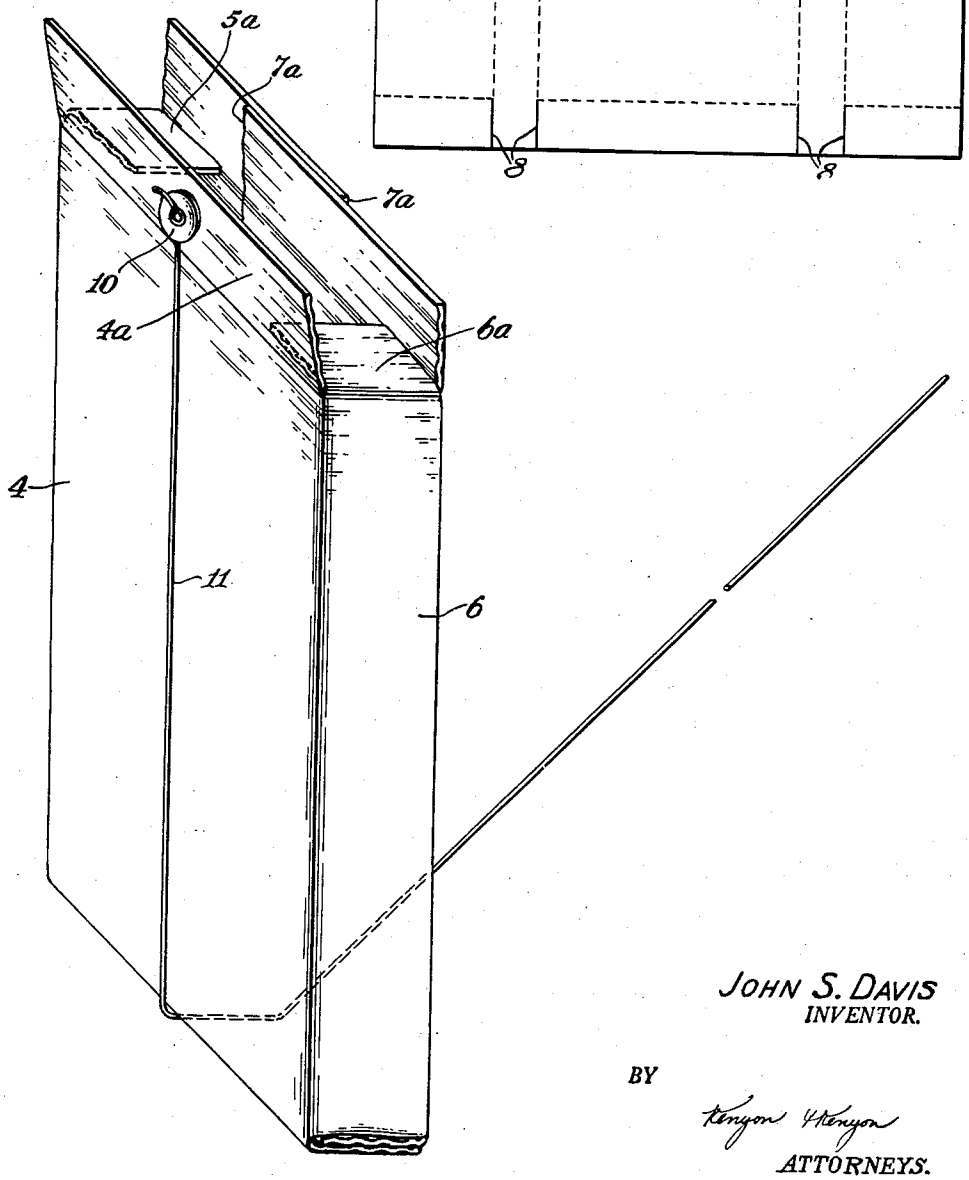


Fig. 4.



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United States Patent Office 2,840,294
Patented June 24, 1958

2,840,294

MAILING CONTAINER

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Application March 3, 1955, Serial No. 491,902

2 Claims. (Cl. 229—37)

This invention relates to a mailing container particularly intended to facilitate the protective packaging and mailing of books. The container may be used for other purposes.

One of the objects is to provide a container which affords good mechanical protection for merchandise which must be mailed or shipped, which permits easy addressing and provides room for printed matter such as a return address or advertisements, and which is relatively inexpensive to manufacture while being convenient to handle. As indicated above, a container made in accordance with this invention is of particular value in connection with the mailing of books by book sellers.

Specific examples of the invention are illustrated by the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the preferred form of the invention and showing the rear side;

Fig. 2 is a perspective of the same container but showing the front view;

Fig. 3 shows how the container of Figs. 1 and 2 appears while it is in the process of being manufactured; and

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing a modification.

Referring to the drawings, the preferred form of the new container, shown by Figs. 1 through 3, includes a length of paper **1** which may be cut from a roll of paper of suitable width. This length of paper is tubed to a rectangular cross-sectional form as shown by Figs. 1 and 2. The paper may be pulled from the supply roll, transversely severed to form the top and bottom of the form, and, of course, tubed to the rectangular form along the fold lines **2** shown in dotted lines by Fig. 3.

This form provides flat walls **3**, **4**, **5** and **6**. The wall **3** forms a longitudinally extending seam where the edge portions **7** of the paper length come together. The corner portions of the form at both of its ends are severed, as shown at **8** so as to form end flaps for closing the ends of the form.

In the above fashion a container is formed very inexpensively by a tubing practice somewhat along the lines practiced in the case of the operation of an automatic paper bag machine. Therefore, high production and low manufacturing cost become possibilities.

As shown by Fig. 1, the edge portions **7** are butted together so that the outside of the wall **3** is flush throughout and free from protuberances. The seam, formed by the edges **7**, is formed or closed by a strip of paper **9** which is secured to the outside of the wall **3** and extends the full length of this wall so as to form a flat paper-covered wall for the outside of the container. The strip **9** extends transversely for the full width of the wall **3** and this strip may be fed from a supply roll continuously to the wall **3** and adhesively secured to the latter throughout the latter's extent in all directions. This makes a firm flat panel which may be printed with advertising matter and used to carry the address of the receiver of the merchandise inserted in the container, such as a book or the like.

The lines of severance **8** have lengths substantially equalling the spacing between the fold lines **2**, thereby, providing each of the walls with closing flaps **3***a*, **4***a*, **5***a* and **6***a*, at both ends of the container. These flaps at the bottom end of the container are closed and the strip **9** is extended thereover, in the form of a flap **9***a* and secured thereto so as to close this end. This closing is effected by folding down the flaps **5***a* and **6***a* first, then the flap **3***a*, which is in two sections because throughout the flap the edges **7** are not interfastened, and by finally folding down the flap **4***a* with the paper flap **9***a* then being placed on top and adhesively secured throughout. This makes a very firmly closed end. The paper strip **9** extends upwardly so as to form a flap **9***a* at the top end so that this end may be closed also and in the same manner as has just been described. This closing is effected by the merchandiser such as after the insertion of a book.

Preferably the strip **9**, which must have a length equalling that of the container plus two times the container's thickness, is coated throughout with an adhesive which normally is dry but which may be activated. For example, paper coated with a suitable gum adhesive which is activated by water may be used, or the paper strip may be coated with a suitable thermo-plastic adhesive which is activated by heat. The manufacturer of the container activates the adhesive excepting for the portion on the top flap **9***a*, the bottom end being folded and the paper strip being adhesively secured in place excepting for its top flap portion. The book seller, for example, obtains these containers ready for the insertion of a book and the quick sealing of the one end that is open to receive the book. The entire front or face of the container is formed by the flat paper strip which also encloses the seam.

Corrugated paper, of relatively heavy weight, is available commercially in rolls with the corrugations running in the direction of the axis of the roll. This paper may be obtained with a relatively light-weight flat paper adhesively secured to one side, or to both sides if desired. As is illustrated this type of paper is used for its well-known mechanical protection value. This results in the container having the corrugations extending transversely so as to provide very rigid walls. The flat paper facing should be on the outside of the container. This permits the adhesive fastening of the paper strip **9** conveniently and at high speed.

In the modification shown by Fig. 4 the seam is formed by overlapping and adhesively securing the wall portions adjacent to the edges **7**, this requiring a wider strip of the heavy-weight corrugated paper. The edges are shown at **7***a* in Fig. 4. Instead of using the flat paper strip **9** with its adhesive coating, which provides the open flap **9***a* in Figs. 1 and 2, a fiber or heavy paper button **10** is riveted to the flap **4***a* and is used to anchor a string **11** which is sufficiently long to go around both ends of the box and return to and connect with the button **10** under which the string may be snubbed by being given several turns. In this case the single string fastens both ends of the box closed and the ultimate user forms both closed ends.

This modification has the advantage that it may be shipped in a flat condition so as to conserve space. The ultimate user squares the box, slips in the book, for example, closes both ends and seals by means of the string.

The preferred form of the invention shown by Figs. 1 through 3 is somewhat more expensive to manufacture and ship to the book seller or other user, but it provides better protection, a more attractive package, and greatly facilitates the finishing of the package by the user after the book or other article is inserted. In the case of the

second example, shown by Fig. 4, the address must be supplied by a separate label or the like.

In all cases the container may be formed by tubing practices in conjunction with a former which is suitably contoured to form the fold lines 2. Thus both examples have the advantage of low manufacturing cost.

I claim:

1. A container including a length of paper which is tubed to a rectangular cross-sectional form having flat walls of which one forms a longitudinally extending seam where the edge portions of said length come together, the corner portions of said form at both of its ends being severed so as to form end flaps for closing the ends of said form, and means for interfastening said edge portions and means for fastening said flaps in closed positions, said edge portions being butted together and both of said means being formed by a strip of paper having the width of said wall which forms said seam and being secured thereto and extending the length thereof so as to form a flat paper-covered wall, said flaps being closed at one end of said form and said strip extending thereover and being secured thereto so as to close said end, and said flaps at the other end of said form being free to open and close and said strip extending thereover to form a flap and the latter having its inside coated with an adhesive so that when said form's flaps are closed said strip's flap may be folded thereover and secured thereto.

2. A container including a length of paper which is tubed to a rectangular cross-sectional form having flat walls of which one forms a longitudinally extending seam where the edge portions of said length come together, the corner portions of said form at both of its ends being severed so as to form end flaps for closing the ends of said form, and means for interfastening said edge portions and means for fastening said flaps in closed positions, said edge portions being butted together and both of said means being formed by a strip of paper having the width of said wall which forms said seam and being secured thereto and extending the length thereof so as to form a flat paper-covered wall, said flaps being closed at one end of said form and said strip extending thereover and being secured thereto so as to close said end, and said flaps at the other end of said form being free to open and close and said strip extending thereover to form a flap and the latter having its inside coated with an adhesive so that when said form's flaps are closed said strip's flap may be folded thereover and secured thereto, said length of paper being corrugated shipping paper faced with flap paper and arranged so that the corrugations extend transversely with respect to said form with the paper facing on the outside thereof.

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