T. H. KRUEGER.

GUMMED STICKER OR LABEL.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 25, 1915.

1,210,952.

Patented Jan. 2, 1917.

2 SHEETS SHEET 1.

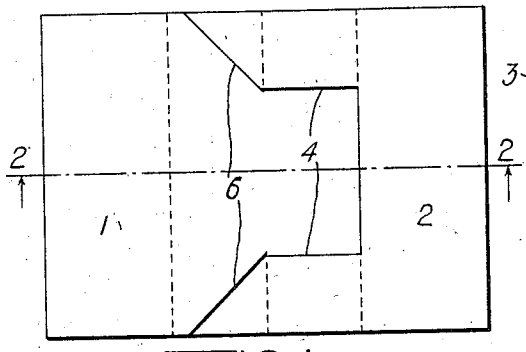


FIG. 1

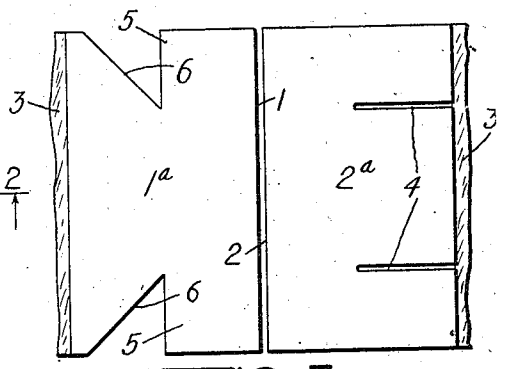


FIG. 3

FIG. 2

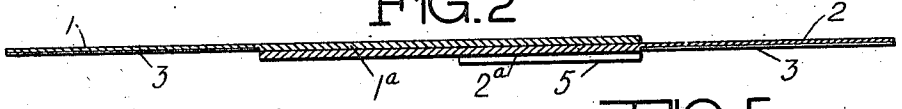


FIG. 4

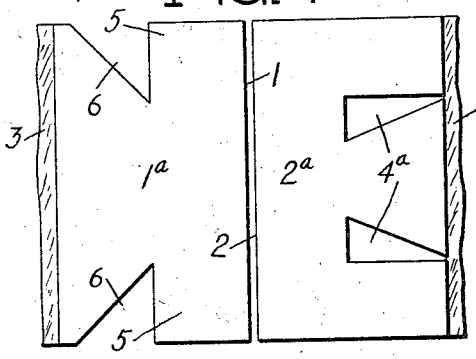


FIG. 5

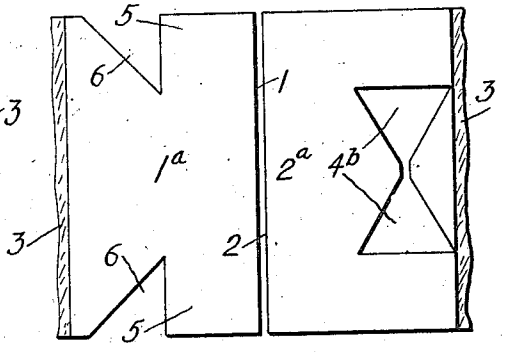


FIG. 6

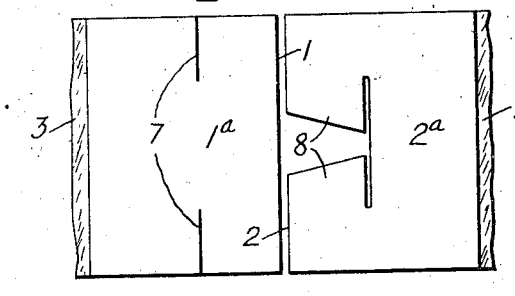
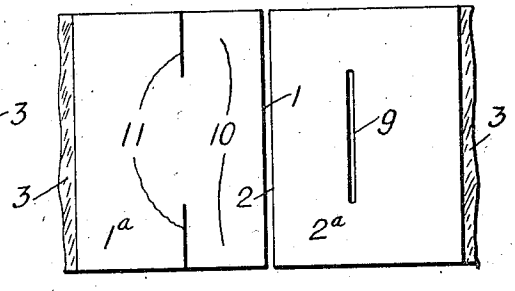


FIG. 7



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 8.

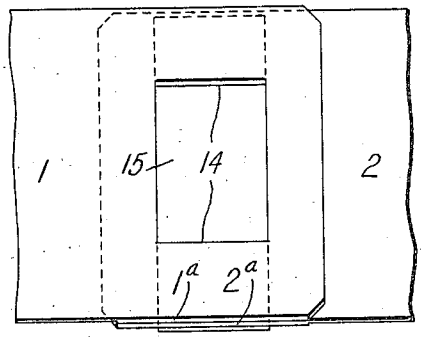


FIG. 9.

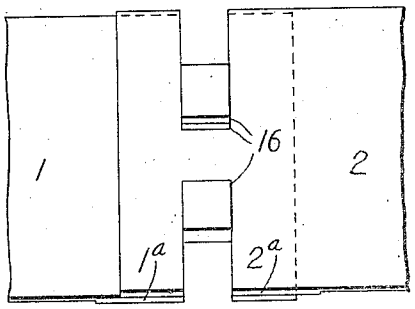


FIG. 10.

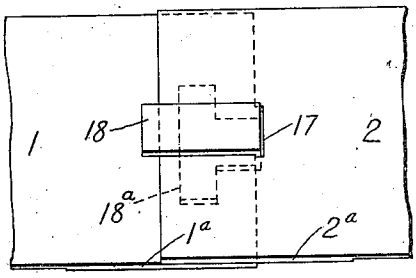


FIG. 11.

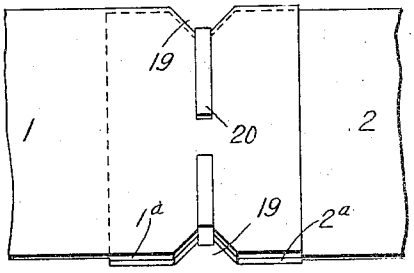


FIG. 12.

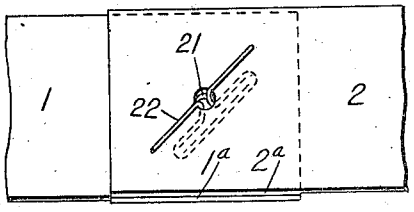


FIG. 13.

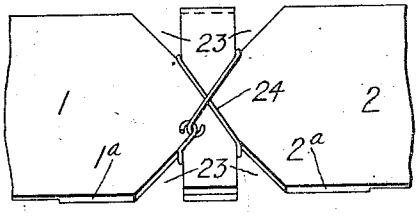


FIG. 14.

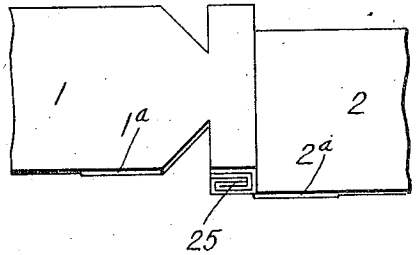
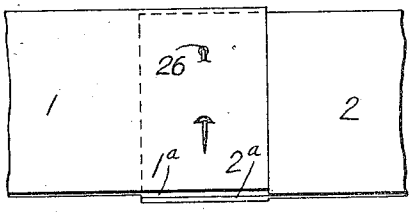


FIG. 15.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE H. KRUEGER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

GUMMED STICKER OR LABEL.

1,210,952. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 2, 1917.

Application filed October 25, 1915. Serial No. 57,361.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE H. KRUEGER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gummed Stickers or Labels, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to a sticker which is adapted for use in sealing envelops, packages and the like, the object of the invention being to provide an inexpensive sticker by means of which an envelop or package can be securely closed, although provision is made for easily and quickly opening the same to inspect the contents, as is required by the postal regulations relating to the wrapping of second class matter.

Further objects of the invention are to provide a sticker or seal of this character which can be very inexpensively formed of tough paper or like material, which can be applied to envelops or packages with rapidity, which is not injured by the opening of the envelop or package to inspect the contents thereof, and which can be affixed in position without soiling the fingers.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel combinations and arrangements of the parts as will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the novel features thereof being pointed out in the appended claims.

For a full understanding of the invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, in which I have illustrated several specific embodiments of the invention by way of example and in which;

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a sticker or closure constructed in accordance with the invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the same, on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the sealing sticker, the two sections thereof being separated and shown detached, and the gummed outer ends of the sections being broken away. Figs. 4, 5, 6 and 7 are views similar to Fig. 3, showing different means for effecting an interlocking tongue and slot connection between the overlapping reinforced ends of the two halves or sections of the sticker. Figs. 8 to 15 inclusive are detail views showing different modifications in which the overlapping reinforced inner ends of the sections are releasably held together, the extremities of the more flexible gummed outer ends being broken away.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

All of the different embodiments of the invention provide a sealing sticker having gummed end portions and an intermediate ungummed zone which is preferably reinforced, the said ungummed intermediate zone providing a part which can be grasped by the fingers of the operator when applying the sticker, thereby enabling the sticker to be readily affixed without soiling the hands.

In the preferred constructions the sticker is formed in two independent sections having overlapping inner ends which are releasably held together in such a manner that they can be connected or disconnected at pleasure, the outer ends of the sections being gummed for ready attachment to the portions of an envelop or package which it may be desired to secure together. Owing to the fact that the outer ends of the sections are not reinforced, but are merely formed of a single thickness of tough paper or the like, they are enabled to have the softness and resiliency which is essential to the quick and easy application of the gummed fastener to the package, and which softness and resiliency would not be present if the reinforcements covered the entire areas of the strips. Packages rarely present a smooth hard surface, and a soft flexible gummed sheet can be easily applied to an irregular or uneven surface, where it would be very difficult to make a stiff gummed sheet adhere at all. A secure fastening means is thus provided for envelops and packages, although the construction of the sealing sticker admits of the envelop or package being quickly opened at any time for the purpose of inspecting the contents thereof, as is required by the postal regulations relating to second class matter.

Referring to Figs. 1, 2 and 3 of the drawing, the numerals 1 and 2 designate independent pieces of paper or like material, the outer ends of the pieces of paper being provided with a layer of adhesive 3, while the inner ends thereof overlap, said overlapping ends being preferably thickened or reinforced, as indicated at 1^a and 2^a, respectively. These reinforced inner ends of the paper strips or sections are ungummed

and have an interlocking tongue and slot connection so that they can be readily connected or disconnected, as desired. In this particular embodiment of the invention the reinforced end 2^a of the paper strip 2 is provided with a pair of spaced and longitudinally extending slots 4 adapted to receive laterally projecting tongues 5 upon the reinforced inner end 1^a of the paper strip 1, said tongues being conveniently formed by triangular notches 6 in the sides of the strip. The tongues 5 normally interlock with the slots 4, as indicated by Fig. 1, and the two paper strips are then held securely together, although by grasping the extremity of the reinforced inner end 1^a of the strip 1 at a point between the tongues 5 and pulling outwardly thereon, the tongues can be disengaged from the slots 4. The paper strips or sections are normally locked together, as indicated by Fig. 1, and are adapted to be applied to the envelop or package in this form, the ungummed intermediate portion of the sealing sticker providing a part which can be handled without soiling the fingers.

Fig. 4 shows a slight modification, in which the slots 4^a in the reinforced inner end 2^a of the paper strip 2 have a substantially triangular formation, thereby facilitating the insertion of the tongues 5 through the slots and enabling the reinforced overlapping ends of the complemental members or sections to fit flat against each other without any bulging.

Fig. 5 shows a further modification, in which the slots 4^b of the section 2 have a more pronounced triangular formation and communicate with each other at an intermediate point between the outer sides thereof. The manner of connecting and disconnecting the two complemental sections is identical with that previously described.

Fig. 6 illustrates a modification in which the reinforced inner end 1^a of the section 1 is provided at the sides thereof with corresponding transverse slits 7 adapted to interlock with inwardly projecting lateral tongues 8 provided at the end of the reinforced portion 2^a of the section 2. By properly flexing the tongues 8 they can be readily brought into or out of engagement with the slits 7.

Fig. 7 illustrates another possible modification in which the reinforced inner end 2^a of the section 2 is provided at an intermediate point with a transverse slot 9, while ears 10 are provided at the extremity of the reinforced end 1^a of the section 1 by corresponding transverse slits 11 extending inwardly from the sides thereof. These ears 10 can be folded inwardly and the extremity of the end 1^a inserted through the slot 9 of the end 2^a of the complemental strip, after which the ears 10 can be expanded so as to lock the complemental strips or sections together and prevent them from being pulled apart.

In Fig. 8 the overlapping reinforced inner ends 1^a and 2^a of the respective complemental sections 1 and 2 are provided with corresponding slots 14 which receive a removable key or locking strip 15, said strip being threaded through the registering slots so as to lock the complemental sections of the sticker together, although by withdrawing this key or locking strip the complemental sections can be separated.

In Fig. 9 the sides of the overlapping reinforced inner ends of the complemental sections of the sticker are each provided with corresponding slits forming ears 16 which are folded inwardly in such a manner as to lock the sections together.

In Fig. 10 the reinforced end 2^a of the complemental section 2 is formed with a transverse slot 17 adapted to receive a flexible tongue 18 projecting longitudinally from the reinforced inner end of the opposite complemental section. This tongue 18 may be formed of metal or other suitable material, and in the present instance is shown as having a T shaped head 18^a which is attached to the section 1. When this tongue 18 is inserted through the slot 17 and returned, the two complemental sections are held together.

In Fig. 11 the overlapping inner ends of the complemental sections have the sides thereof correspondingly notched at 19, and a binding strip 20 of metal or other suitable material is bent around the strips and caused to engage the notches in such a manner as to lock the two strips together.

In Fig. 12 the overlapping ends of the complemental strips are formed with registering openings 21 adapted to receive a wire key or fastening member 22 which is suitably bent so as to hold the complemental sections together.

In Fig. 13 the overlapping ends of the complemental sections are each provided at the sides thereof with a corresponding pair of notches 23, and a binding wire or cord 24 is wrapped around the overlapping ends in such a manner as to engage the notches and hold the two complemental sections together.

In Fig. 14 the extremities of the reinforced overlapping inner ends of the complemental sections 1 and 2 are brought together and a series of interlocking folds made in the same, as indicated at 25.

In Fig. 15 the overlapping inner ends of the complemental strips are merely fitted against each other and then secured by a pin fastener 26, said pin fastener being adapted to be withdrawn when it is desired to disconnect the complemental sections and inspect the contents of the envelop or package.

The reinforced interlocking or detachably connected ends of the fastener imparts a certain amount of stiffness thereto, which renders the fastener as a whole easy to handle and facilitates the application thereof to a package. At the same time, the free ends thereof which are not reinforced are sufficiently pliable to insure adequate adhesion. It will also be observed that the reinforced ends of the fastener are restrained from any independent lateral movement, thus making it possible to handle them in quantity with facility in replenishing dispensing devices, such as illustrated in Patent No. 1,194,752 or in handling them individually when subjecting them to use.

The complemental sections of each of the sealing stickers are adapted to be fastened together at the time the sticker is applied to the package, since the sealing stickers can be very quickly and conveniently handled in this form.

The sticker is extremely inexpensive in its construction, since it can be made of paper, and it provides a strong closure for envelops or packages, at the same time admitting of the envelop or package being quickly opened at any time to inspect the contents thereof.

While I have illustrated several forms in which my invention may find embodiment, I do not wish to be limited to the precise structural details as these may be varied and departed from and still be within the purview of the invention as defined in the following claims.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a package fastener consisting of two independent strips so connected as to prevent substantial relative movement, but detachable one from the other, the free ends of said strips being provided with a layer of adhesive, and the detachably connected ends being reinforced, and rendered stiffer than the free end portions which remain flexible.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a package fastener consisting of two independent strips, the inner ends of the strips overlapping each other, and means for releasably connecting the overlapping ends and holding them against substantial relative movement but in such a manner that they are detachable one from the other, the free ends of said strips being provided with a layer of adhesive and the releasably connected overlapping ends being reinforced, and rendered stiffer than the free end portions which remain flexible.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a package fastener consisting of two independent strips, the inner ends of the strips overlapping each other, and the overlapping end of one strip being formed with a pair of oppositely extending lateral tongues, while the overlapping end of the opposite strip is formed with slits to receive and interlock with the tongues and hold the strips against substantial relative movement, but in such a manner as to be detachable one from the other, the free ends of said strips being provided with a layer of adhesive, and the overlapping ends being reinforced, and rendered stiffer than the free end portions which remain flexible.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a paper fastener comprising two independent strips provided with reinforced ends overlapping and releasably held together, said reinforced ends being formed of plural plies held together by a cementitious material, the free ends of said strips being provided on one side with a coating of adhesive material, whereby said overlapping reinforced ends are strengthened and rendered stiffer than the free ends which remain flexible.

THEODORE H. KRUEGER.