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2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:

J. P. Appleman,
R. H. Butler

INVENTOR

J.D. Young

BY 24

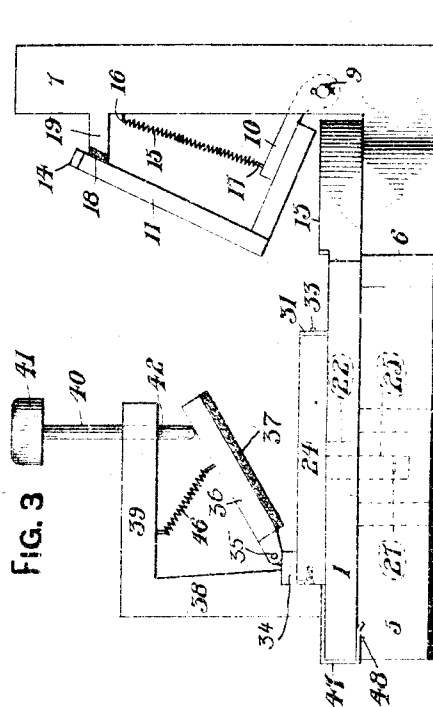
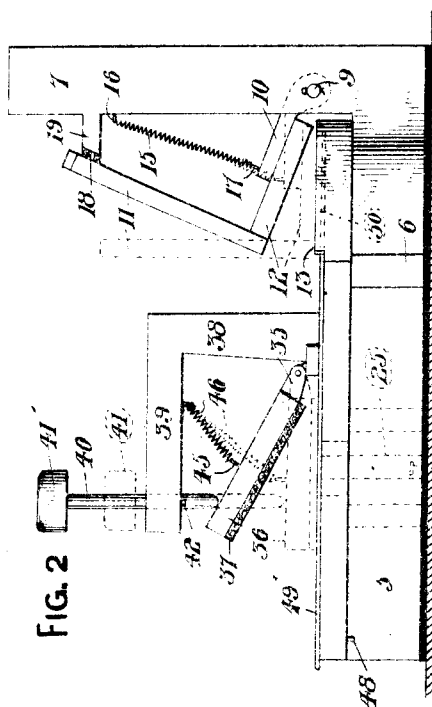
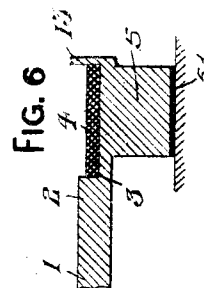
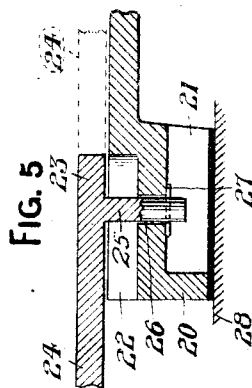
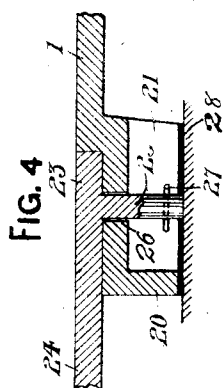
ATTORNEYS

J. D. YOUNG.
 ENVELOP MOISTENING AND SEALING DEVICE.
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1,035,294.

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R. A. Butler

INVENTOR.

J. D. Young

BY

A. C. Over

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN D. YOUNG, OF LEECHBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

ENVELOP MOISTENING AND SEALING DEVICE.

1,035,294.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 13, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN D. YOUNG, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Leechburg, in the county of Armstrong and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelop Moistening and Sealing Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to an envelop moistening and sealing device, and the primary object of my invention is to provide a device that can be advantageously used in offices, large mercantile houses and other establishments having a large number of envelopes to seal, the device being constructed whereby the sealing operation can be expeditiously and economically performed.

Another object of this invention is to provide an envelop moistening and sealing device that can be folded to occupy a comparatively small space when not in use, or to provide a small parcel that can be carried as mail matter.

A further object of this invention is to provide a device of the above type consisting of comparatively few parts that are strong and durable, inexpensive to manufacture, easy to manipulate, and highly efficient for moistening and sealing envelopes.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention resides in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter specifically described and then claimed.

Reference will now be had to the drawings forming a part of this specification, wherein there is illustrated a preferred embodiment of the invention, but it is to be understood that the structural elements can be varied or changed, as to size, proportion, and manner of assemblage, without departing from the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the envelop moistening and sealing device; Fig. 2 is an end view of the same; Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the sealing device folded upon the moistening device; Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view of a pivoted connection between the devices; Fig. 5 is a similar view showing the pivoted connection in position for folding the devices, and Fig. 6 is a cross sectional view of the moistening pad of the device.

The moistening device comprises a platform 1 substantially rectangular in plan and having the rear edge thereof provided with an extension 2, and this extension in plan conforms to the shape of an envelop flap. The extension has a recess 3 for a pad 4 of absorbent material, as felt, adapted to hold water or mucilage. The upper surface of the pad is removed from the surface of the extension, and the gum or adhesively coated flap of an envelop is adapted to be pressed into engagement with the pad as will presently appear.

The platform 1 is supported in an elevated position by a transverse leg 5 and longitudinal leg 6, the leg 6 being arranged adjacent to the edges of the extension 2, with the leg 5 central of the platform. The leg 5 protrudes beyond the extension 2 of the platform 1, and is provided with an upright 7. The upright has a vertical slot 8, and pivotally mounted in said slot by a transverse pin 9 is a rearwardly extending arm 10 of a presser head 11. The presser head 11 has angularly disposed integral presser plate 12 adapted, when in a lowered position, to enter the recess 3 of the platform 1, and force the flap of an envelop into engagement with the pad 4. The correct position of the flap above said pad is governed by a vertical rib 13 carried by the rear edge of the extension 2, and when said presser head is lowered, the plate 12 rides into engagement with the inner side of said rib. The top of the presser head has a serrated finger piece 14, and said head is normally held in an elevated position by a coiled retractile spring 15, having one end thereof attached to the upright 7, as at 16, and the opposite end thereof attached to the outer end of the arm 10, as at 17. The presser head 11 is limited in its upward movement by a buffer 18, carried by a right angular extension 19 of the upright 7.

To facilitate the manipulation of an envelop upon the platform 1, the forward edge of the platform has a transverse groove 20 providing clearance for the thumb or fingers gripping the envelop.

The platform 1 at one end thereof is provided with a foot 20, having the under side thereof cut away, as at 21. The platform directly above the foot has a socket 22, and movably mounted within the socket is a tongue 23 of the sealing platform 24. The tongue 23 has a depending pin 25 extending

through an opening 26 provided therefor in the foot 20, and arranged transversely of the lower end of the pin 25 is a cotter pin 27 to prevent said pin from becoming accidentally displaced from the opening 26. The pin 25 is of sufficient length to rest upon a table or other support 28 when the device is in use, and to permit of the sealing platform 24 being raised and swung over the platform 1, as best shown in Figs. 3 and 5. The outer end of the sealing platform 24 has a foldable leg 29 hinged to the end of the platform as at 30, whereby it can be swung outwardly to engage the end of the platform, and in such position being in the same plane as said platform. The ends of the leg 29 are braced by straps 31, pivotally connected to the edges of the platform, as at 32, and loosely connected, by means of pins 20 and slots 33, to the ends of the leg 29.

The rear edge of the sealing platform 24 is provided with a longitudinal strip 34 to limit the movement of an envelop upon the sealing platform. Hinged to this guide strip, as at 35, is a presser head 36 corresponding in plan to the shape of an envelop flap. The under side of the presser head is provided with a strip of felt, or other yieldable material 37, adapted to prevent the flap of an envelop from being injured when pressure is brought to bear upon the head 36. The rear edge of the sealing platform is provided with an upright 38, having a forwardly extending or overhanging arm 39. Movable mounted in the forward end of the arm 39 is a push pin 40, having the upper end thereof provided with a knob or button 41, and the lower end thereof rounded and provided with a transverse pin 42, which limits the upward movement of said push pin 40. The lower rounded end of the push pin 40 engages in a longitudinal groove 43 provided therefor in a metallic plate 44 countersunk in the top of the presser head 36, and the inner end of said plate has an apertured lug 45 connected by a coiled retractile spring 46 to the under side of the arm 39, said spring normally retaining the pressure head in an elevated position.

The rear edge of the sealing platform 24, at the outer end thereof, is provided with a resilient clip 47, adapted to ride into engagement with the forward edge of the moistening platform 1 and engage over a depending pin 48 carried by the moistening platform. This resilient clip is adapted to retain the sealing platform 24 in a folded position upon the platform 1, with the presser head 36 confronting the presser head 11.

After an envelop 49 has received its contents, it is placed upon the platform 1 with the flap 50 opened and the gummed face thereof confronting the recess 3. The presser head 11 is then lowered to force the

gummed surface of a flap into engagement with the pad 4, whereby the gummed surface will be moistened. When the head 11 is released the envelop is removed and placed upon the platform 24. In performing this operation, the envelop is shifted beneath the presser head 37, whereby the moistened flap will be folded and lowered on to the back of the envelop. The inward movement of the envelop being limited by the longitudinal strip 34. The knob or button 41 of the push pin 40 is then struck a blow and said pin lowers the hinged presser head 36, whereby the flap will be sealed in engagement with the body of the envelop. When the presser head 36 recedes, the envelop can be easily removed and is ready to receive a stamp, if not previously stamped for mailing purposes.

I attach considerable importance to the folding of the sealing platform, as a small parcel can be made of the entire device, and consequently the device can be handled by a mail order business.

To prevent the device from injuring the polished surface of a desk, or other support upon which it is placed, the legs 5 and 6, the foot 20, and the foldable leg 29 can be provided with felt or other yieldable material 51, thereby preventing a surface from being injured during operation of the device.

Since easy access is had to the pad 4, it can be easily maintained in a moist condition for thoroughly moistening the gummed or adhesively coated surface of an envelop flap.

The device can be made of light and durable wood, with certain parts of metal, and it is susceptible to any desired ornamentation.

What I claim is:—

1. A device for the purpose set forth comprising an envelop moistening device, an envelop sealing device, one of said devices provided with an offset portion, and means for pivotally connecting said offset portion of one device to the other device and capable of being vertically moved whereby one of said devices can be raised and swung upon the other of said devices.

2. A device for the purpose set forth comprising an envelop sealer provided with a sealing platform, an envelop moistener provided with an envelop supporting platform, the platform of the sealer being of less width than the moistener platform, and means for pivotally connecting the ends of said platforms together and capable of being vertically moved thereby permitting the sealing platform being raised and swung upon the moistener platform, said platforms when extended having their upper faces projecting in the same plane.

3. A device for the purpose set forth

comprising an envelop moistener including a platform, an envelop sealer including a platform, one of said platforms of less width than the other, and means for pivotally connecting said platforms together and capable of being vertically moved whereby the narrow platform can be elevated and swung upon the wider platform, one of said platforms providing means for supporting one end of the other platform when the platforms are extended, said platforms when extending having their upper faces projecting in the same plane.

4. In a device for the purposes set forth comprising an envelop moistener including a platform, and an envelop sealer including a platform, one of said platforms provided at one end with a seat arranged inwardly with respect to the outer face of said platform and capable of receiving one end of the other platform, means carried by that platform mounted upon said seat for pivotally connecting the two platforms together, said means capable of being vertically moved whereby the narrow platform

can be elevated and swung upon the wider platform.

5. In a device for the purposes set forth comprising an envelop moistener including a platform, and an envelop sealer including a platform, one of said platforms provided at one end with a seat arranged inwardly with respect to the outer face of said platform and capable of receiving one end of the other platform, means carried by that platform mounted upon said seat for pivotally connecting the two platforms together, said means capable of being vertically moved whereby the narrow platform can be elevated and swung upon the wider platform, said means extending through said seat and having a stop for limiting the vertical movement thereof.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN D. YOUNG.

Witnesses:

Max H. Sauer,
Charles T. Allen.