Feb. 3, 1959 G. PRIAL 2,872,099

ENVELOPES

Filed Aug. 3, 1955

Fig. 1

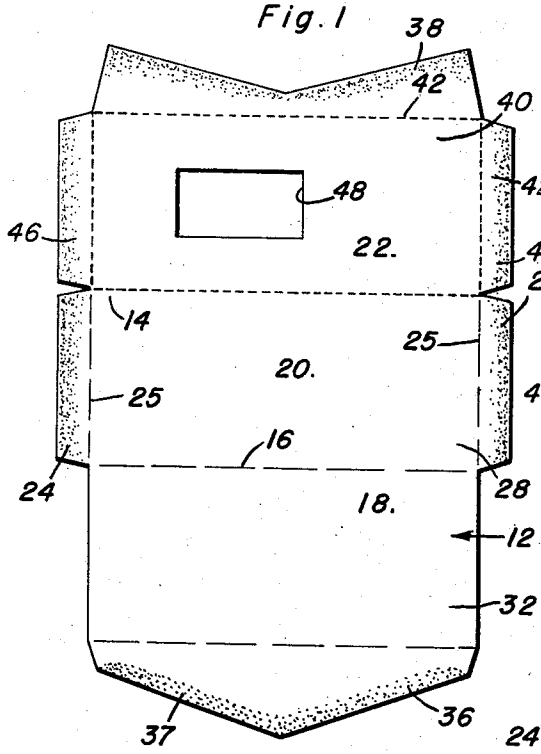



Fig. 2

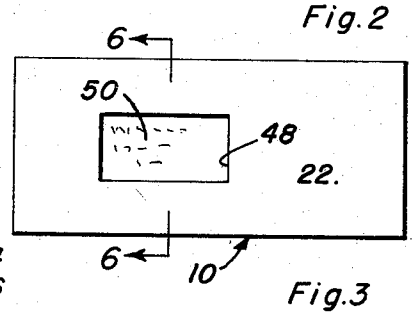



Fig. 3

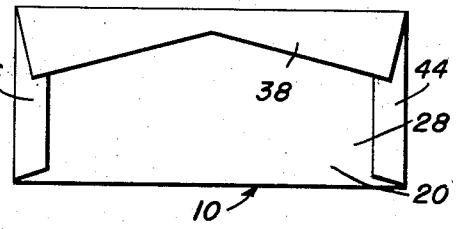



Fig. 4

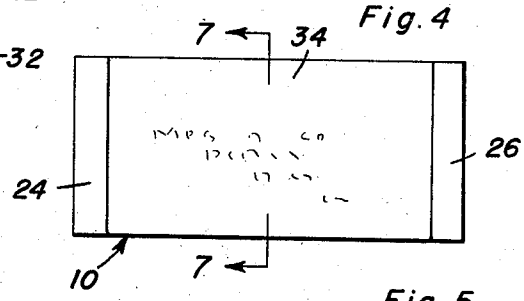



Fig. 6

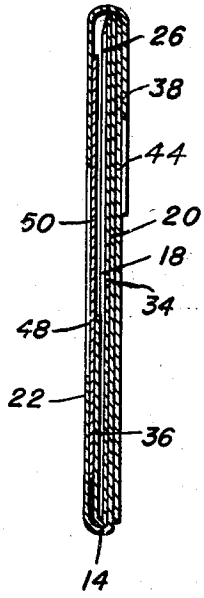



Fig. 7

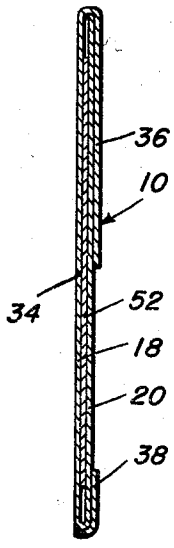
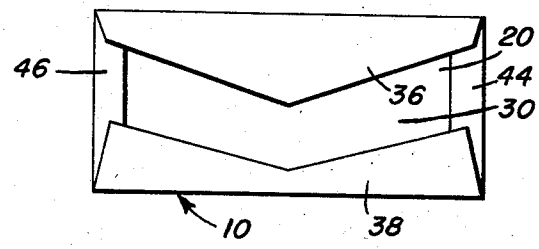



Fig. 5




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2,872,099

Patented Feb. 3, 1959



2,872,099

# ENVELOPES

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Application August 3, 1955, Serial No. 526,292

1 Claim. (Cl. 229—73)

This invention relates to improvements in the construction of envelopes and similar mailing containers and is particularly directed to an improved dual use envelope which can be used as a sending and return envelope.

A primary object of this invention is to provide an envelope of one-piece construction which is effectively sealed in both its forwarding and returning states and which can be changed from its forwarding state into a return envelope in a fast, simple and convenient manner.

Another important object of this invention is to provide a one-piece envelope which can safely retain bills in its sending form and remittances in its return form due to an effective but simple full sealing means and which is inexpensively formed due to a simple design which eliminates excessive folds, flaps and the like.

A further object of this invention is to provide an envelope which is formed from a rectangular sheet of paper which is folded transversely upon itself to provide the envelope and which includes three panels, one of which is centrally located and forms the back panel of the envelope in its sending and return condition, and the other two of which are end panels that form the fronts of the envelope in its two conditions, one of said end panels overlying the other and being removable to fully expose the other.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a simple, inexpensively constructed and reliably and conveniently usable envelope.

The foregoing and ancillary objects are attained by this invention, the best known form of which is set forth in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the envelope in blank form;

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view of the envelope in its sealed initial mailing condition;

Fig. 3 is a rear elevational view of the sending envelope of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a front elevational view of the envelope in its return sealed mailing form;

Fig. 5 is a rear elevational view of the envelope shown in Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 6—6 of Fig. 2, and

Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 4.

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, the dual use envelope is shown in its sealed sending and return forms in Figs. 2 and 3 and Figs. 4 and 5, respectively. The envelope, generally designated by the numeral **10**, is formed from a single sheet **12** of suitable paper material, shown in Fig. 1. As shown therein, the sheet **12** is substantially rectangular and is divided by longitudinally spaced, transverse score lines **14** and **16** into three rectangular panels **18**, **20** and **22**, of which panel **20** is centrally disposed while the other panels are end panels, the panel **18** forming a first end panel and the panel **22** forming a second end panel.

The center panel **20** has straight side edges which are



provided with small, rectangular flanges **24** and **26** that define side walls for the envelope in its sending condition and are hinged by fold lines **25** to the edges. The panel **20** has opposing surfaces **28** and **30**, the surface **28** providing the inner back wall of the sending and return envelope and the surface **30** providing the outer back wall of the sending and return envelope.

The panel **18** constitutes the front wall of the return envelope and has opposing surfaces **32** and **34**, the surface **34** of which functions as an address bearing surface in the return form of the envelope. The panel **18** is of the same width as the other panels and has a triangular sealing flap **36** hinged to its outer end edge with the mucilage side **37** of the flap on the same side as the surface **32** of the panel. The surface **32** of the panel forms the inner surface of the front wall of the return envelope while the surface **34** is adapted to have the sender's name (as shown in Fig. 4) printed or otherwise inscribed thereon.

The panel **22** constitutes the front wall of the sending envelope and is provided at its outer end edge with a sealing flap **38** that has mucilage on its inner side. The flap **38** is formed in the shape of a V and has tapered side edges and forms the top wall of the sending envelope. Also side flaps **44** and **46** are provided to form the sides of the sending envelope.

The panel **22** consists of a rectangular removable section **40** which is outlined by perforated lines **42** to permit it to be easily removed from the flaps **38**, **44** and **46**. When so removed, the surface **34** of the section **18** is exposed so as to expose the sender's name and address on the return envelope. The removable section **40** is formed with a cut-out or window **48** that exposes the address on a bill **50** which is placed between the panels **20** and **22** in the sending function of the envelope.

In the initial use of the envelope, that is the sending form shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 6, the panel **18** is disposed flat on the surface **28** of the panel **20** with the surfaces **28** and **32** in contact and the flap **36** folded down flat onto the surface **32** of the panel **18**. The side flanges **24** and **26** are folded onto the surface **34** and glued or otherwise fixed thereto to form the side walls of the return envelope. The panel **22** is disposed flat on the surface **34** of the panel **18** and the side flaps **44** and **46** are glued onto the surface **30** to form the side walls of the sending envelope. The bill **50** bears the address of the receiver and is inserted between panels **18** and **22** with the address visible through the window **48**. The flap **38** is bent over and stuck onto the outer surface **30** of the panel **20**. The envelope has now been sealed and is ready for first class mailing.

When the receiver receives the envelope, the tear section **40** of panel **22** is removed on the lines **42**.

Th return envelope now consists of panels **18** and **20**. The flaps **44**, **46** and **38** may be left stuck to the panel **20**. The panel **18** forms the front wall and panel **20** the back wall of the return envelope. The surface **34** is exposed by the complete removal of the tear section **40**. The return remittance **52** or the like is then inserted between panels **18** and **20** and the flap **36** is reversed to seal the opening between the mating outer end edges thereof. The score line **16** forms the closed end of such return envelope.

While the preferred form of this invention has been shown and described herein, other forms may be realized as coming within the scope of the invention defined by the appended claim.

What is claimed:

A one-piece sending and return envelope formed from a substantially rectangular sheet of paper divided by transverse, longitudinally spaced score lines into three

equally dimensioned rectangular panels including a center panel and a first and a second end panel hingedly joined at their inner end edges by the score lines to the end edges of the center panel, said panels having opposing side edges disposed in longitudinal alignment, said center panel having equally dimensioned hinged flaps on its opposing side edges, the center panel defining the back wall of the envelope in both its sending and return mailing conditions, said first end panel being folded over onto the center panel and forming the front wall of the envelope in its return condition with said flaps folded over onto and secured to the first end panel and forming the side walls of the return envelope and the score line between the center panel and the first end panel forming the bottom wall of the envelope in its return condition, said first end panel having its outer end edge formed with a sealing flap which is folded back down onto the first end panel in the sending condition of the envelope and which is adapted to be folded over onto the back surface of the center panel to form the top wall of the envelope in its return condition, said second end panel being folded over onto the first end panel in the sending condition of the envelope and forming the front wall of the sending envelope with the first end panel interposed between the center panel and the second end panel, said second end panel having side flaps and an end flap which flaps are folded over onto the back surface of the center panel and glued thereto to form the end walls and the top wall of the envelope in its sending condition, the score line between the center panel and



the second end panel forming the bottom wall of the envelope in its sending condition, said second end panel having a window formed therein to expose an address on a bill inserted between the first end panel and the second end panel and said second end panel being joined by perforations to its end and side flaps, said perforations joining said end and side flaps to said second panel and said perforations joining said second panel to said center panel forming a complete rectangle whereby said second panel may be torn out and removed in its entirety to permit access to said bill and said sealing flap of said first panel whereby said envelope may be transformed to its return condition, said end flap of said second panel being in the form of an inverted V when folded to facilitate removal of said bill after said second panel has been entirely removed.

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