G. P. FITZSIMMONS.

ENVELOP.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 29, 1914.

1,128,862.

Patented Feb. 16, 1915.

Fig. 1

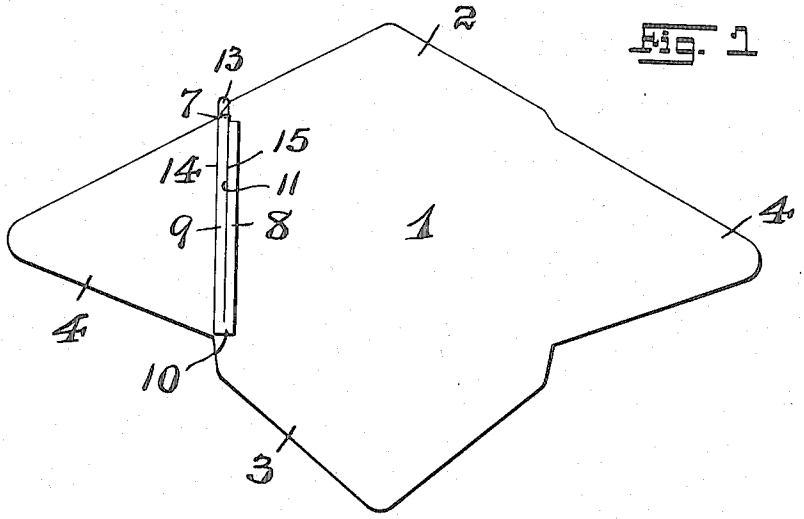
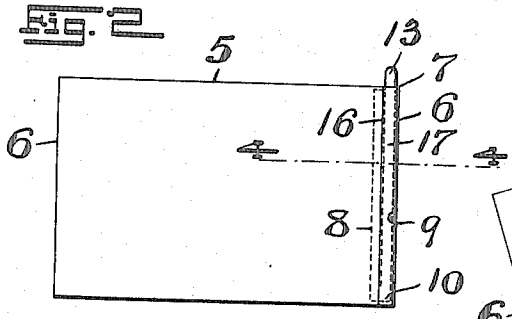


Fig. 2



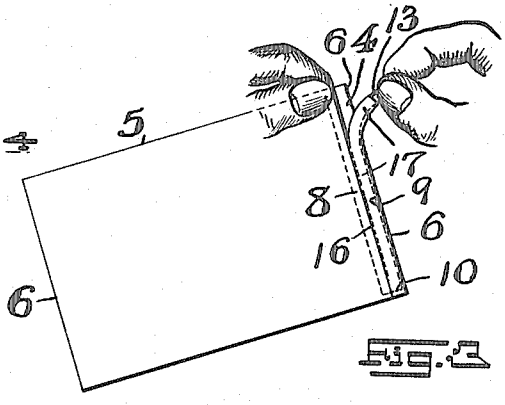


Fig. 3

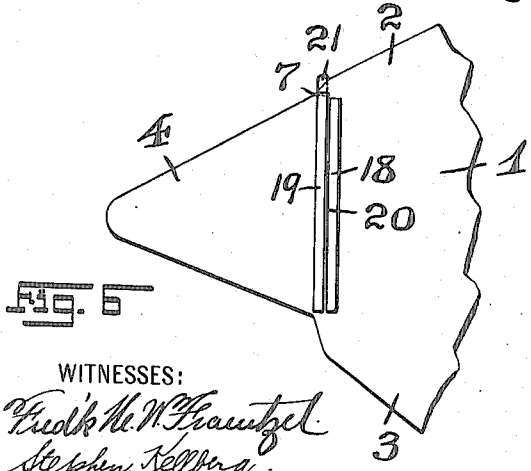


Fig. 6

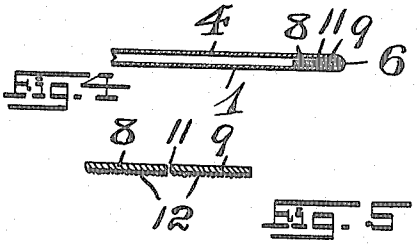


Fig. 4

Fig. 5

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ENVELOP.

1,128,862. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 16, 1915.

Application filed July 29, 1914. Serial No. 853,797.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE P. FITZSIMMONS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention has reference, generally, to improvements in envelops; and, the invention relates, more particularly, to improvements in that class of envelops which are provided with a means for readily tearing away or severing the closed end of a sealed envelop so as to open the same and to permit of the removal of its contents.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide an envelop upon the inner surface of the main body of the envelop, at either end thereof, and entirely removed from the flaps of the envelop, with a tearing or severing means, comprising two members of a stiff material, one member serving as a guide or straight-edge and the other member serving as a tearing strip adapted to be moved along the edge of the guide or straight-edge, thus neatly removing a narrow strip of the front of the envelop without any danger of mutilating the contents, and at the same time leaving the sealed flaps forming the back of the envelop, in its entirety.

The invention has for its further object to extend one end of the tearing strip-member through a slit in one of the folded edges of the envelop so as to provide a means which may be readily grasped, to pull said tearing-strip against and along the edge of the member which provides the guide or straight-edge herein-above mentioned.

Other objects of this invention not at this time more particularly enumerated will be clearly understood from the following detailed description of the present invention.

With the various objects of the present invention in view, the invention consists, primarily, in the novel envelop hereinafter set forth; and, the invention consists, furthermore, in the novel arrangements and combinations of the several parts, all of which will be more fully described in the following specification, and then finally embodied in the clauses of the claim which are appended to and which form an essential part of this specification.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a view of the inner face of a blank from which the envelop is made, showing in connection therewith the attachment of a combined guide or straight-edge member and a tearing strip, the same being made according to and illustrating one embodiment of the principles of the present invention. Fig. 2 is a front face view of the complete envelop, when sealed, and provided with the severing means represented in said Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a similar view of the sealed envelop, showing the manner of opening the end of the envelop by means of said severing means. Fig. 4 is a detailed sectional representation of the sealed end-portion of the envelop, said section being taken on line 4—4 in said Fig. 2; and Fig. 5 is a transverse section, on an enlarged scale, of the severing means shown in the above described figures of the drawings. Fig. 6 is an inner face view of a portion of an envelop provided with a severing means comprising a combined guide or straight-edge member and a tearing-strip of a slightly modified construction.

Similar characters of reference are employed in the above described views, to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring now to the several figures of the drawings, the reference-character 1 indicates the body of the envelop, 2 the lower flap, 3 the sealing flap, and 4 the two end flaps, the lower flap 2 when properly folded forming with the body 1 the usual fold 5, and the end flaps forming with said body, when folded, the usual end folds 6. As shown in Figs. 1 and 6 of the drawings, at one end of one of said end-folds 6, and extending for a suitably short distance along the fold is a suitably made slit or opening, as 7, for the purpose to be presently more fully set forth.

The opening or severing means hereinabove mentioned, and shown in Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive, consists essentially of two mem-

bers 8 and 9, which are connected at one of their respective end-portions by a part 10, and are longitudinally separated by a cut or slit, as 11. The said severing means is made of suitable material which is quite stiff, such as card-board, the card-board being preferably provided with a covering of muslin, as 12, or other suitable fabric, in the manner indicated in Fig. 5 of the drawings. It will be understood, however, that instead of card-board, any other material suitable for the purposes of a severing means may be employed. With the severing means thus provided, the member 8 forms a suitable guide or straight-edge member, and the member 9 forms a tearing strip, said member 9 being also made slightly longer than the member 8, so as to provide an extension or tab 13 which extends into and through the opening or slit 7 in the fold 5, and projects slightly from the sealed envelop, so as to provide a suitable fingerpiece which facilitates taking hold of the tearing-strip 9 when it is desired to manipulate the latter.

In its assembled relation within the sealed envelop, the two members 8 and 9 are suitably secured by being pasted, gummed, or otherwise fastened upon the inner surface of the body 1 near one of the end-folds 6, so that the marginal edge 14 of the tearing-strip 8 will lie within and will be in alinement with the fold 5, the marginal edge 15 of the member 9 providing a perfect tearing or severing guide or straight-edge, as will be clearly evident. Upon its outer surface, the said body 1 may be provided near its one end-portion, beneath which the said severing means is located, with an indicator line, as 16, which is in alinement with the cut or slit 11 which separates the two members 8 and 9, and helps to more readily indicate to the person which end of the envelop is to be opened.

The manner of manipulating the severing strip 8, when it is desired to open the end of the sealed envelop is clearly indicated in Fig. 3 of the drawings, the strip 8 when pulled against and along the guide or straight-edge 15 of the member 9, cutting away the respective end-portion 17 of the body 1, along the fold 6 and directly above and in a perfectly straight line with the straight-edge 15, the parted or severed portion of the body being torn away upon straight lines, leaving no ragged edges and with the back of the envelop, formed by the several sealed flaps, left in its entirety. At the same time, an end-portion of the contents of the envelop is sufficiently exposed to permit of ready removal of the contents from within the envelop.

In lieu of the form of connected guide or straight-edge member and tearing-strip member just described, and illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 of the drawings, the connecting part 10 may be omitted, and two separate and distinct members 18 and 19 may be secured side by side, with a space 20 between them, upon the inner surface of the body 1 of the envelop, near one of the end-folds 6, and a fingerpiece 21 upon the end of the member 19, in the manner illustrated in Fig. 6 of the drawings. In all other respects, the construction and operation of this modified severing means is the same as that of the severing means described in the foregoing specification and illustrated in Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive of the drawings.

The advantage of the guide or straight-edge member 9 will be evident in that this member upon opening the end of the envelop will not become displaced, and remaining in its fixed position upon the inner surface of the body 1 of the envelop, not only causes a clean cut severed edge to be produced, but also serves to reinforce the severed edge after the envelop has been opened.

Of course I am aware that some changes may be made in the general arrangements and combinations of the various parts, without departing from the scope of the present invention as set forth in the foregoing specification, and as defined in the clauses of the claim which are appended thereto. Hence, I do not limit my present invention to the exact arrangements of the parts as described in the said specification, nor do I confine myself to the exact arrangement of the said parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

I claim:—

1. An envelop comprising a body, a bottom flap, end-flaps and a sealing flap connected by marginal folds, said envelop being provided at one end of the fold formed by the body and the bottom flap with a slit, combined with severing means for opening an end of the sealed envelop, comprising two members attached to the inner face of said body and crosswise of one end thereof, one of said members forming a guide having a straight-edge, and the other member forming a tearing-strip, said tearing-strip being longer than said guide-member, and an extension projecting through said slit in the fold of the envelop and providing a fingerpiece.

2. An envelop comprising a body, a bottom flap, end-flaps and a sealing flap connected by marginal folds, said envelop being provided at one end of the fold formed by the body and the bottom flap with a slit, combined with a severing means for opening an end of the sealed envelop, comprising two members attached to the inner face of said body and crosswise of one end thereof, one of said members forming a guide having a straight-edge, and the other member forming a tearing-strip, said tearing-strip being longer than said guide-member, and

an extension connected with said tearing-strip, said extension projecting through said slit in the fold of the envelop and providing a finger-piece, said two members being also separated longitudinally by a cut or slit, but being united at one end-portion of a connecting member.

In testimony, that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 27th day of July, 1914.

GEORGE P. FITZSIMMONS.

Witnesses:

FREDK. C. FRAENTZEL,

FREDK. H. W. FRAENTZEL.