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V. E. HEYWOOD

2,081,052

ENVELOPE

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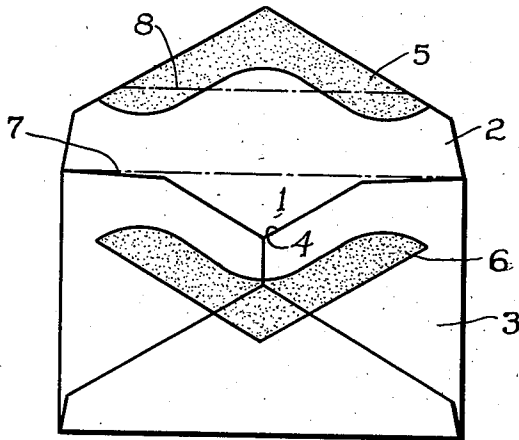


Fig. 1

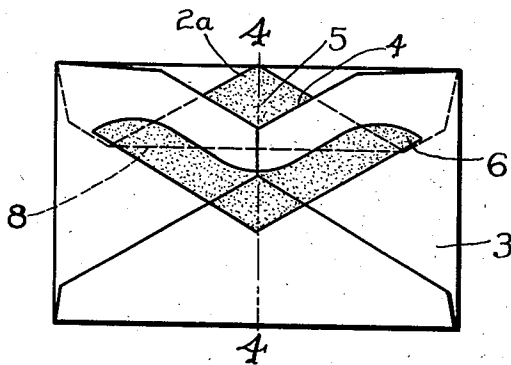


Fig. 2

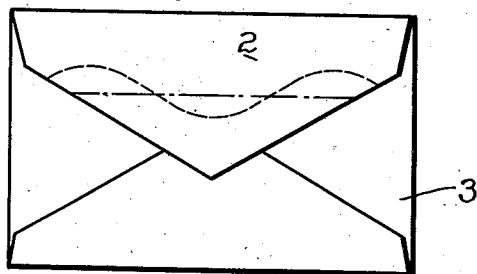


Fig. 3

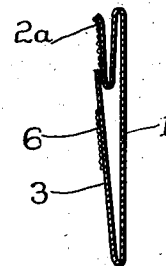


Fig. 4

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ENVELOPE

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5 Claims. (Cl. 229—80)

The present invention relates to envelopes, and particularly to envelopes of the dry-sealing type in which corresponding areas of the seal flap and body are coated with an adhesive having the property of sticking to itself upon non-moistened contact.

According to the present invention, there is provided an improved envelope of the above indicated character which in addition to being folded so as to prevent the gummed areas from inadvertently coming into contact, as in packing and handling, also has its seal flap so disposed that a portion thereof can be readily seized and pulled out for the specific purpose of sealing. The above and other advantageous features of the invention will hereinafter more fully appear from the following description with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a rear view of an envelope with adhesive applied thereto in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 illustrates the preliminary folding and tucking in of the seal flap preparatory to packing, without registration of the gummed areas.

Fig. 3 shows the envelope of Fig. 1 in a sealed condition.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view along the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Like reference characters refer to like parts in the different figures.

Referring first to Fig. 1, the envelope utilized for the purpose of embodying the invention is shown as being of a usual form with a front wall 1, seal flap 2 and a rear wall 3 constituted by side and bottom flaps folded over and adhesively secured together in overlying relation, the upper edge of the rear wall 3 providing a notch 4 for a purpose which will hereinafter appear. In the manufacture of this envelope, correspondingly shaped bands of adhesive 5 and 6 are applied to the seal flap 2 and rear wall 3 respectively, it being noted that the adhesive bands or coatings are symmetrically disposed with respect to the score line 7 between the flap 2 and the front wall 1. The adhesive used for the bands 5 and 6 is of such a character that said bands when dry will adhere to each other upon non-moistened contact, although they will not adhere to uncoated areas of the material of which the envelope is made. Preferably the adhesive for the bands or coatings 5 and 6 is applied in the form of a dispersed rubber solution, or as natural or compounded latex, the invention also contemplating the use of other similar dry-seal-

ing adhesives in the form of thermoplastics, such as arclor resins or galypols, either alone or in combination.

In the manufacture of my improved envelope, the seal flap 2 is folded back upon itself along a score line 8, as indicated by the dot and dash line, and the thus-folded flap 2, by virtue of its other fold along the usual score line 7, becomes tucked in behind the rear wall 3. The envelope then appears as shown in Fig. 2, with the gummed apex portion 2a of the seal flap projecting above the notch 4. The envelope is then ready for being packed in the usual manner in standard size boxes, without any possibility of inadvertent adhesion between the adhesive areas 5 and 6. Nor is there any possibility of the flap 2 becoming displaced in ordinary handling of the envelope after it has been removed from its box.

When it is desired to use the envelope, the apex portion 2a of the flap 2 is seized and pulled out into its original position as shown in Fig. 1, so that after insertion of the closure in the envelope it can be sealed by folding down the flap 2, as shown in Fig. 3. This brings the adhesive 5 and 6 into exact registration, so that the sealing is completed by merely exerting pressure on the overlying adhesive coated areas. The adhesion between the seal flap and envelope body is such that the envelope cannot be surreptitiously opened, as by steaming, due to the waterproof nature of the adhesive. Furthermore, any attempt to separate the flap from the envelope by pulling will inevitably result in pulling the gumming from one or the other of the paper surfaces, or in tearing of the paper itself.

From the foregoing, it is apparent that by the present invention there is provided an envelope which does not require moistening in order to seal it, the envelope being so constructed that the adhesive coated areas which are adapted to adhere when engaged with each other are positively maintained out of engagement in advance of the actual sealing, thus permitting the envelopes to be packed in the usual manner without possibility of inadvertent adhesion.

I claim:—

1. An envelope having its seal flap and rear wall provided with corresponding areas of adhesive having the property of sticking to itself upon non-moistened contact, characterized by tucking a previously folded portion of the seal flap between the front and rear walls of the envelope to maintain the adhesive thereon out of register with the adhesive on said rear wall, said rear wall

being cut away to expose the folded portion of said seal flap.

2. An envelope having its seal flap and rear wall provided with corresponding areas of adhesive having the property of sticking to itself upon non-moistened contact, characterized by preliminary folding of the adhesive coated portion of the seal flap upon itself and the disposal of the folded portion of the seal flap between the front and rear walls of the envelope, said rear wall being cut away to expose the folded portion of said seal flap.

3. An envelope having its seal flap and rear wall provided with corresponding areas of adhesive having the property of sticking to itself upon non-moistened contact, characterized by preliminary folding of the adhesive coated portion of the seal flap upon itself and the disposal of the folded portion of the seal flap between the front and rear walls of the envelope, with the adhesive coated apex of the seal flap extending above the edge of said rear wall, but not beyond the edge of the envelope body.

4. An envelope having its seal flap and rear wall provided with corresponding areas of dry-sealing adhesive, with a portion of the free edge of the rear wall cut away and with said seal flap being folded upon itself and tucked in between the front and rear walls of the envelope to maintain said dry-sealing adhesive areas out of engagement for packing and to present a portion of said folded seal flap above the cut away edge of said rear wall and below the edge of the envelope body.

5. An envelope having a flap extending from one wall and a portion of the free edge of the opposite wall cut away, said flap and said cut-away wall providing similarly shaped areas of dry-sealing adhesive and said flap being folded upon itself and tucked in between said envelope walls to maintain said adhesive areas out of engagement, with a portion of the folded flap projecting above the cut-away edge of said wall.

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