May 13, 1958 R. W. CLARKE 2,834,135

WINDOW PHOTO FRAME ENVELOPE AND SUPPORT

Filed April 10, 1957 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

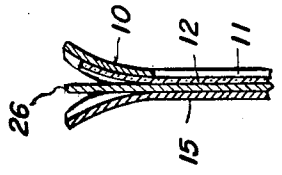


FIG. 6

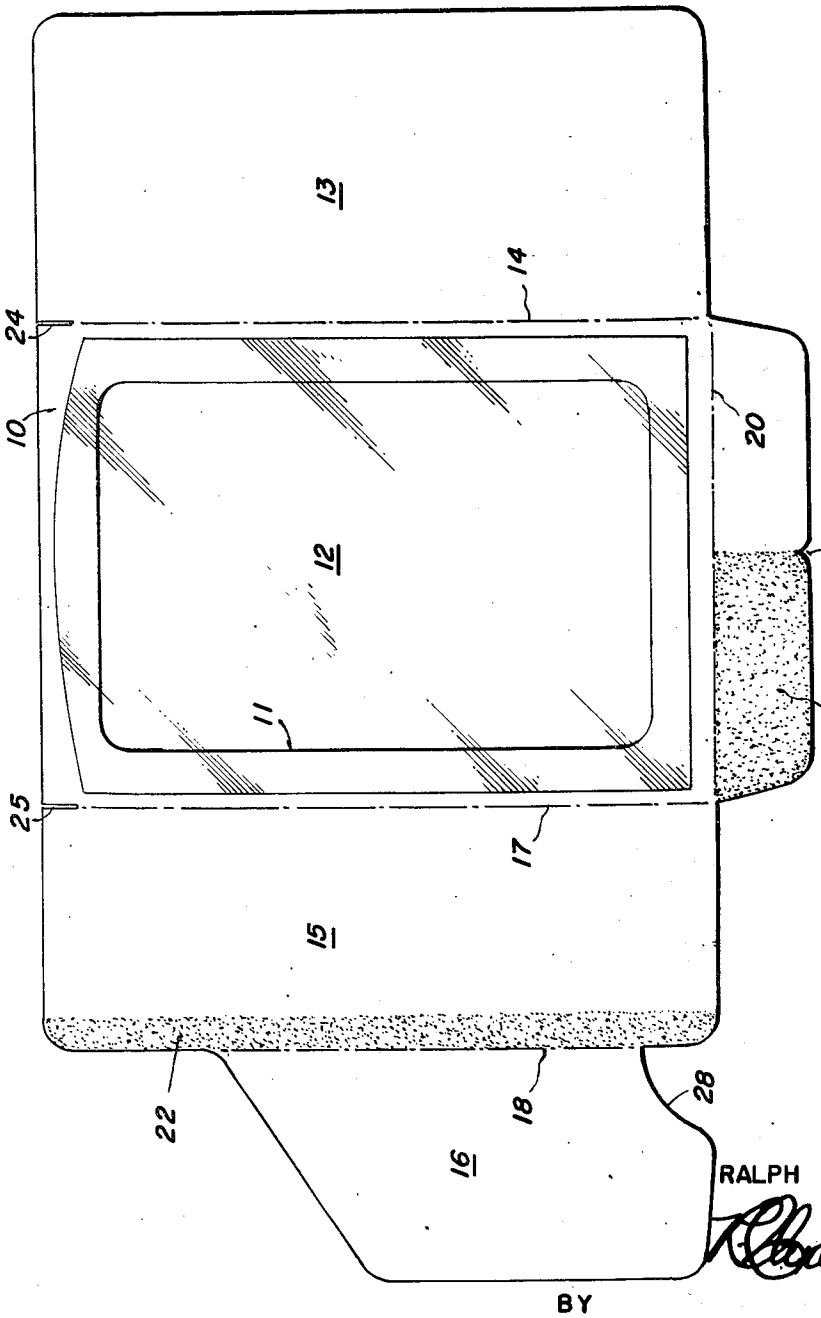


FIG. 1

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May 13, 1958 R. W. CLARKE 2,834,135

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Filed April 10, 1957 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 2

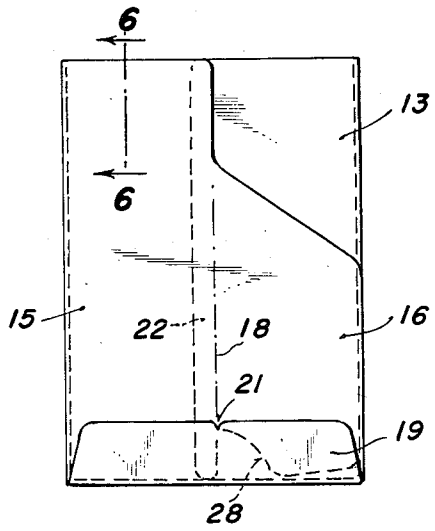


FIG. 3

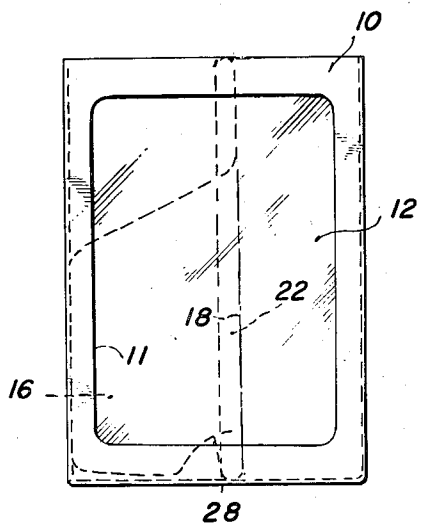


FIG. 4

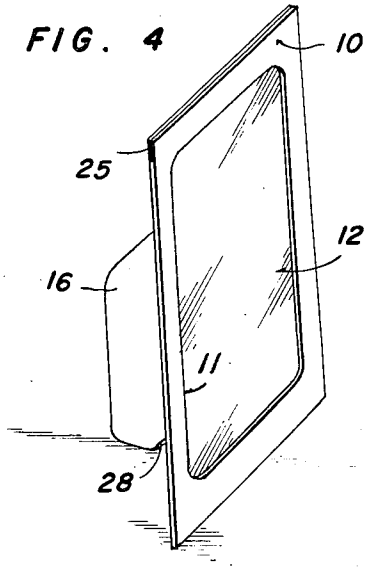
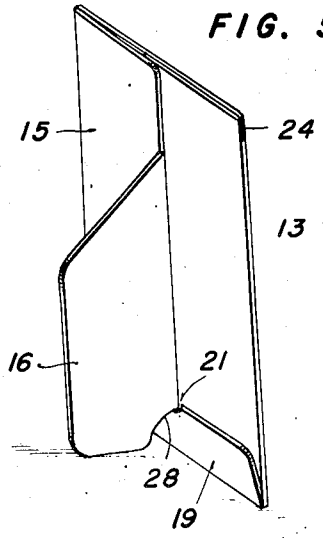


FIG. 5



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WINDOW PHOTO FRAME ENVELOPE AND SUPPORT

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Application April 10, 1957, Serial No. 651,865

8 Claims. (Cl. 40—152.1)

This invention relates to an envelope to contain a picture such as a photograph or a card, and more particularly to a windowed envelope such that the photograph or card may be viewed while protected by the envelope and such that the envelope may be supported in a position to facilitate such viewing.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a device of this kind that is attractive, simple, and inexpensive especially on the basis of ease of manufacture and economy of material.

Other and further objects and advantages of the device will become apparent from the following specification taken with the accompanying drawing in which like characters of reference denote the like elements in the several views and in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan of the blank from which the device is formed from the rear of the blank.

Fig. 2 is a rear view of the blank of Fig. 1 folded to form the completed device.

Fig. 3 is a front view of the completed device.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the device in use as to display the card or picture.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view similar to Fig. 4 but from the rear of the device in use.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary section taken on line 6—6 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawing, it will be seen that the blank shown in Fig. 1 comprises a central wall or panel **10** which is cut away at **11** to provide a display aperture or window through which the contents will be viewed. This aperture is preferably covered by a sheet of transparent material **12** adhesively secured by its edges to the back of panel **10**. Where such sheet of transparent material is used, it is preferably secured in place as a step in forming the blank of Fig. 1.

A back wall or panel portion **13** is provided, separated from panel **10** by a fold line **14**. Panel **13** is slightly more than half the width of panel **10**, for a reason that will be explained below.

A second back wall or panel portion made up of two parts **15** and **16** is provided separated from front panel **10** by a fold line **17** between panel **10** and part **15** of the second back panel. Parts **15** (which is half as wide as panel **10**) and **16** are separated by a fold line **18** for later use when panel part **16**, as seen in Figs. 4 and 5, will be folded outwardly to form a support for the device in use.

Bottom flap **19**, separated from front panel **10** by a fold line **20** and having a notch **21** at the center of its free edge, completes the device, except for the adhesive areas used to secure the device in assembled form.

There are two adhesive areas (other than used to secure element **12** if used) placed on the blank as seen in Fig. 1. One of these areas **22** extends the length of the panel part **15** adjacent fold line **18** and is of a width to match the amount by which panel **13** exceeds half the width of panel **10** so that in assembling the device when panel **13** is folded into the position shown in Fig. 2 and panel **15**, **16** is folded into overlying position, panel part **15** may be adhesively secured to panel part **13** along its edge leaving panel part **16** free.

The second adhesive area on the blank is seen at **23** on bottom flap **19** on that portion only which, when folded into the position shown in Fig. 2 overlies panel part **15** so that when in place it adheres only to panel part **15** leaving panel part **16** free. It will be understood, then, that as seen in Fig. 2 the lower end of panel part **16** lies between panel **13** and bottom flap **19** but is not secured thereto.

The lower edge of panel part **16** is cut away in a large notch **28** one side of which forms a continuation of fold line **18**, and the other side being curved downwardly to the edge to leave a considerable length of bottom edge of panel part **16** which latter part may be cut at an upward angle so that when folded outwardly as seen in Figs. 4 and 5, the device will lean backward slightly. It will be noted that the depth of notch **28** along the extension of line **18** is the same as the distance from the bottom of notch **21** in bottom flap **19** to fold line **20**.

It will be understood, then, that until the device is to be set up as a display as seen in Figs. 4 and 5, the panel part **16** is held in place against panel **13** by the overlying part of bottom flap **19**, but when it is desired to set the device up as a display it is only necessary to withdraw the panel part **16**, that forms a leg, from under the flap **19**, fold it along fold line **18** so that it extends outwardly through notch **21** by which it is held from folding back flat against panel **13** so the device will stand erect on the bottom of panel **10** and the bottom edge of panel part **16**, or on fold line **14** of panel **10** and the edge of panel **16**.

From the above description of the blank and its assembly, it will be clear to those skilled in the art that unlike other display envelopes, the blanks, Fig. 1, may be processed in a single step in a conventional envelope machine to form the completed device of Figs. 2 and 3. The amount of material, however, required to form the blank of Fig. 1, is only very slightly more than would be required to make an envelope without the support feature provided by panel part **16**. A further saving of material could be made by reducing the length of panel part **16** so that in blanking, the panel part **16** of one blank would complement the panel part **16** of an adjacent blank (rotated 180° from the position of Fig. 1). Such additional saving of material, however, would be at the expense of stability of the device when in use in display position resting on fold line **14** and the free edge of panel part **16**.

It is desired that the envelope portion of the device, that is, the space between panels **10** and **13** and **15**, be as closely as possible the same size as a standard size photographic print, so that such a print cannot become cocked at an angle to the envelope to present an unsightly appearance. Making the device of such a size makes it difficult to insert a picture in, or to remove a picture from the envelope. To facilitate such insertion and removal, without increasing the size of the envelope, a pair of short slits **24** and **25** are cut along fold lines **14** and **17** respectively, at the top edge of the blank. It will be understood from Fig. 6 that a photograph **26** inserted in the envelope can be grasped by pulling the top edges of panels **10** and **13** and **16** apart. Conversely the photograph **26** may be inserted readily into the envelope by opening the space between the top edges of the front and back panels and placing the bottom edge of the picture therebetween. By lowering one bottom corner of the photograph below the bottom end of, say slot **24**, and pulling the photograph against fold line **14**, the other bottom corner of the photograph will readily slide between the panels adjacent fold line **17**.

It will, of course, be clear to those skilled in the art

that variations and modifications of the device may be made without departing from the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A display envelope comprising a windowed front panel, an imperforate back panel formed of two flaps the one overlying and secured to the other centrally of said back panel by an adhesive seam, a bottom flap overlying said two back panel flaps and secured to only one of said flaps, a support formed as an extension of one of said flaps extending along the edge of said flap beyond said seam and normally held against said other flap by the bottom flap and adapted to be withdrawn from under said bottom flap and folded outwardly along said seam to form a support for said envelope.

2. The display envelope of claim 1 in which said support is formed with a cut away portion along said seam below said bottom flap, the extent of said cut away portion along said seam being of such extent that the support may be withdrawn from under said bottom flap without tearing said support or bottom flap.

3. The display device of claim 2 in which said bottom flap is provided with a notch where it overlies said seam and said cut away portion is of such extent that the edge of said cut away portion at said seam coincides with the bottom of said notch.

4. A display envelope for photographs or the like comprising a windowed front panel, an imperforate back panel formed of bent back side flaps along fold lines at the edges of said front panel overlapping and adhered together along a central seam, a support element formed as an extension of the overlapping flap of the back panel, a bottom closing flap adopted to cover the lower ends of said lapping side flaps and said support element, said bottom closing flap being secured only to said overlapping side flap, said side flaps being severed from said windowed front panel for a short distance along the said fold lines at the end of said front panel remote from said bottom closing flap whereby insertion and removal of photographs or the like is facilitated.

5. The device of claim 4 in which said windowed front panel is provided with a sheet of transparent material secured to said panel to protect the contents of said envelope while permitting full view thereof.

6. A blank for forming a display envelope comprising a rectangular panel formed with a viewing aperture, a first flap formed as an extension on one side of said panel of the same length as said panel and of somewhat over half the width of said panel, a second flap formed as an extension of the side opposite said one side of the same length as said panel comprising a portion of half the width of said panel and provided with an adhesive area to overlie the edge of said first flap when folded, and having a support forming portion extending from said adhesive area,

said support forming portion being of a width substantially the same as half the width of said panel, and extending a substantial length along said adhesive area, a narrow flap along a third side of said panel, said narrow flap being provided with an adhesive area only on that portion that is adjacent said second flap and of an extent of only half of the width of said panel.

7. A display envelope for a photograph or the like formed from a blank having a windowed front panel, a first back wall panel folded behind said front panel and seperated from said front panel by a foldline, a second back wall panel folded behind said front panel and separated from said front panel by a fold line, said second back wall panel comprising a portion complementary to said first back wall panel adhesively secured to the edge of said first back wall panel and having an extension adapted to form a support for said envelope, said extension normally lying in the plane of said second back wall panel, and a bottom flap folded upwardly and behind said first and second back wall panels and overlying a portion of said extension, said bottom flap being secured only to said second back wall panel whereby it releasably holds said extension in its normal position in the plane of said back wall panel.

8. An envelope for photographs comprising a front portion having an enlarged viewing window therein and a back portion, said back portion comprising a rectangular first flap formed as a folded back extension of one side of said front portion and of an extent slightly more than half the width of said front portion to form a portion of the back of the envelope, a second flap formed as a folded back extension of the other side of said front portion, said second flap comprising a portion complementary to said first flap to form the remainder of said back of the envelope and overlapping said first flap by the amount that said first flap exceeds half the width of said front portion, and secured to said first flap along its edge and having a further portion extending from the edge of said portion complementary to said first portion to provide a support for said envelope in display position, said further portion normally lying against said first flap, a bottom flap formed as a folded back extension of the bottom of said front portion, overlying said second flap and adhesively secured only to said portions complementary to said first flap whereby said further portion lies between said first flap and said bottom flap, a notch in said further portion adjacent said complementary portion.

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