Nov. 8, 1955 H. M. WHITMAN 2,723,076

MAILING ENVELOPES

Filed Oct. 24, 1952

FIG. 1

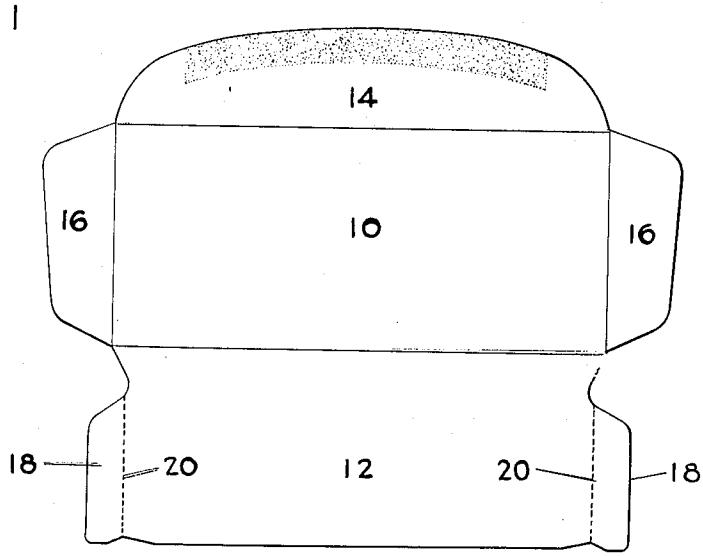


FIG. 2

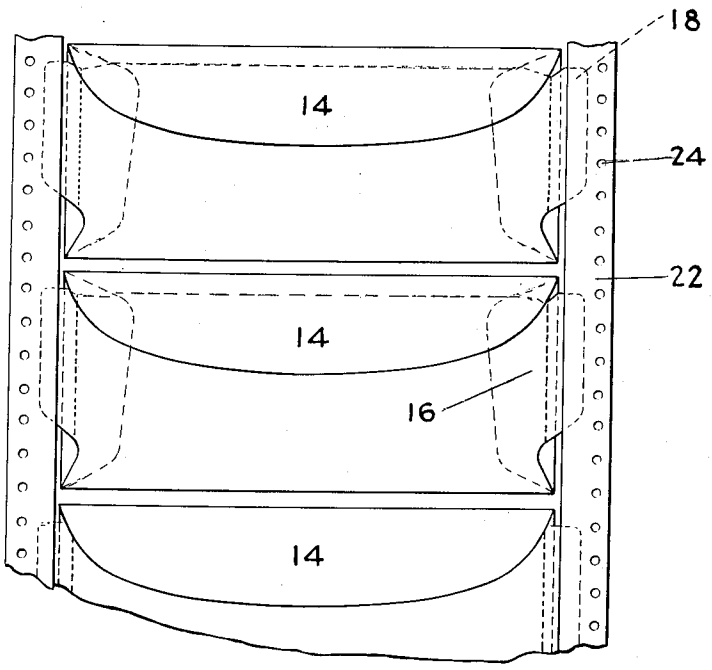
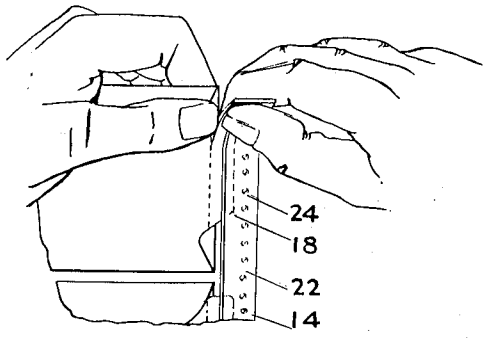


FIG. 3



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MAILING ENVELOPES

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3 Claims. (Cl. 229—69)

This invention relates to mailing envelopes of paper and more particularly to business and correspondence envelopes arranged in a continuous series adapted for feeding them mechanically and successively by a pin wheel feeding mechanism or other device to an addressing or other form of machine.

A primary object of the invention is to provide a continuous series of envelopes maintained in spaced relation to each other by perforated feeding tapes attached thereto on opposite sides, the feeding tapes and portions of the envelope to which they are attached being adapted for easy separation from the envelopes after addressing, sealing, etc.

A feature of importance of the invention is that in the envelope blank as cut from a sheet, supplemental flaps are provided at opposite ends in addition to those used for sealing the back panel, so that when the envelope is formed by the conventional folding operation the supplemental flaps will extend beyond the opposite ends of the envelope.

Another feature of importance of the invention is that the supplemental flaps are attached to the perforated feeding tapes, there being a line of snap out perforations between the body of the envelopes so that the supplemental flaps and the tapes may be readily removed from the body of the envelope.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention may include the features of construction and operation set forth in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

In the accompanying drawing annexed hereto and forming a part of this specification, I have shown the invention embodied in a series of slightly separated conventional business envelopes, but it will be understood that the invention can be otherwise embodied and that the drawing is not to be construed as defining or limiting the scope of the invention, the claims appended to this specification being relied upon for that purpose.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the blank for one of the envelopes of the series before being folded;

Fig. 2 is a rear view of a series of envelope made according to the present invention and attached to their feeding tapes supplemental flaps, and

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view showing one of the perforated tapes being separated from the envelope.

In the above mentioned drawing, there has been shown but one embodiment of the invention which is now deemed preferable, but it is to be understood that changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Referring more in detail to the figures of the drawing and first to Fig. 1, it will be seen that the blank forming an envelope comprises a front panel **10**, a back panel **12**, a sealing flap **14**, extensions **16** at opposite ends of the front panel **10** for attachment to the back panel **12** to form the standard form of mailing envelope for business and other purposes. In addition to flaps **16** supplemental flaps or extensions **18** are provided extending laterally from the opposite ends of the back panel **12**. It will be seen that the envelope blank is folded after being gummed in the usual manner for either first or third class mailing and when so folded has the unfolded and preferably unsealed supplementary flaps **18** outstanding from opposite ends of the envelope. Between these supplemental flaps **18** and the back panel **12** are lines of perforations **20** permitting easy separation of the supplemental flaps **18** from the complete envelope.

After the envelopes have been gummed and folded and with the flaps or extensions **16** sealed to the back panel in the conventional manner, tapes **22** are sealed to the extensions **18** as shown in Fig. 2. The tapes **22** are provided adjacent one of their edges with equally spaced circular perforations **24** adapting the tape **22** to pass over pin type feeding wheels, the pins of which enter the perforations **24**. The extensions or supplemental flaps **18** as shown are sealed to the tapes **22** along the opposite edges of the tapes **22** with the envelopes slightly spaced apart as shown in Fig. 2.

The series of envelopes as shown in Fig. 2 are fed into an addressing, printing or other type of machine by means of the perforated strips **22** on opposite sides of the series of envelopes and after being operated on the strips **22** and extensions **18** are separated from the envelopes one after the other along the lines of perforations **20**. After separation of the extensions **18** from the back panel **12**, each envelope becomes a standard business envelope ready for filling with the material to be mailed, sealing the flap **14** against the back panel **12** and mailing either as first or third class mail dependent upon the amount of gumming on one of the flaps **16** to the back panel **12**. In the process of attaching the flaps or extensions **18** to the strips **22** the perforations **24** in the strips on opposite sides are placed in alignment with each other so that the series may be fed into the addressing or other machine. Sealing of the flaps **14** may take place before separating the tapes **22** from the envelopes or afterwards as the tapes in no way interfere with filling the envelopes with their contents or sealing the flap **14** ready for mailing.

It will be seen in Fig. 2 that the line of perforations **20** is so placed on panel **12** that when the envelope is separated from the tapes **22** and flaps **18** the torn edge of the panel **12** will lie within the border or edge of flap **16**.

I claim as my invention:

1. A series of envelopes each having front and rear panels, a sealing flap and lateral extensions on one panel attached to the other panel, supplemental extensions on opposite ends of one of said panels, and tapes attached to said supplemental extensions to retain said envelopes in spaced relation to each other, said supplemental extensions being removable with said tapes to separate said envelopes.

2. A series of envelopes each having front and rear panels, a sealing flap and lateral extensions on one panel attached to the other panel, supplemental extensions on opposite ends of one of said panels, lines of perforations between said panel and supplemental extensions, and tapes attached to said supplemental extensions to retain said envelopes in spaced relation to each other, said supplemental extensions being removable with said tapes to separate said envelopes.

3. A series of envelopes each having front and rear panels, a sealing flap and lateral extensions on one panel attached to the other panel, supplemental extensions on opposite ends of one of said panels, lines of perforations between said panel and supplemental extensions, said lines of perforations being disposed within the fold line be-

tween said first mentioned extensions and the panel to which said first mentioned extensions are attached, and tapes attached to said supplemental extensions to retain said envelopes in spaced relation to each other, said supplemental extensions being removable with said tapes to separate said envelopes.

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