Oct. 9, 1923. 1,469,878

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MANIFOLDING ENVELOPES

Filed Dec. 5, 1921

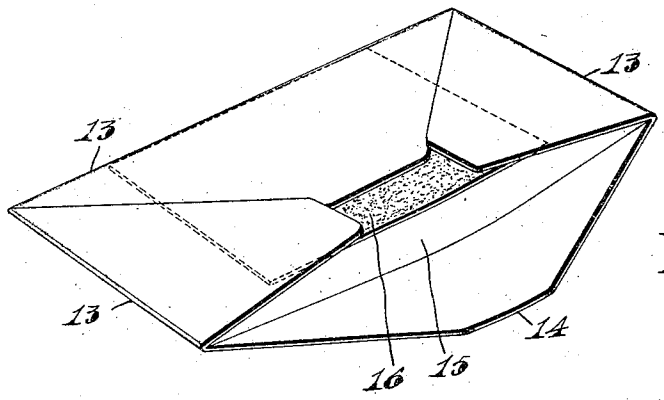


Fig.1.

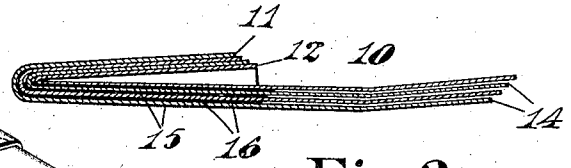


Fig.3.

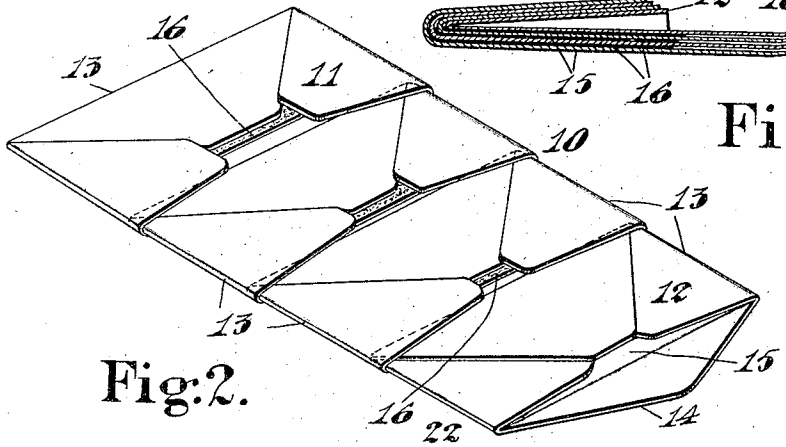


Fig.2.

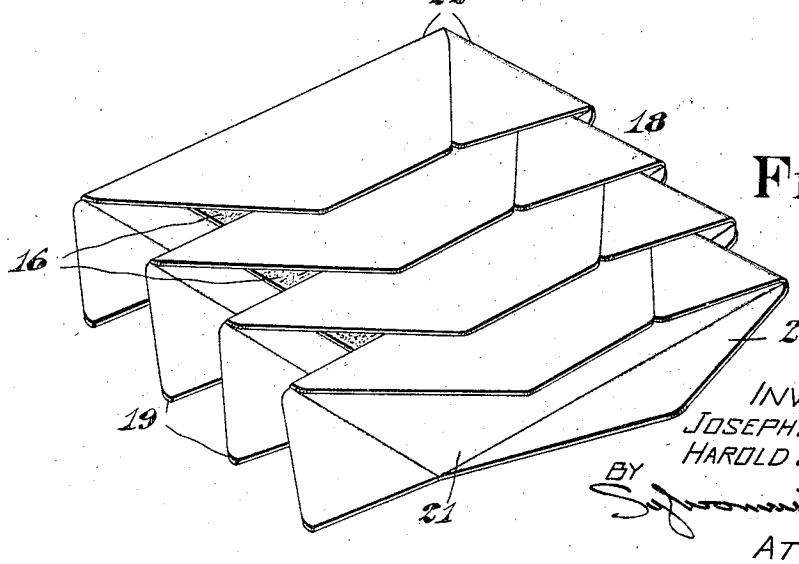


Fig.4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH H. BONNEVILLE, OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, AND HAROLD S. BARNES, OF YONKERS, NEW YORK.

MANIFOLDING ENVELOPES.

Application filed December 5, 1921. Serial No. 520,086.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH H. BONNEVILLE and HAROLD S. BARNES, citizens of the United States, residing at Stamford, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, and Yonkers, in the county of Westchester, and State of New York, respectively, have invented new and useful Manifolding Envelopes, of which the following is a specification.

It often happens that in writing, typing or otherwise marking inscriptions upon envelopes or other enclosing devices, it may be desired to effect reproductions of a single inscription so limited in number that printing or stenciling them in the customary ways is unprofitable. The present invention provides a system and method by which a plurality of addresses or like inscriptions may be produced by a single marking operation, with a substantial economy over existing methods.

Means by which our invention may be carried out is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which Figure 1 is a perspective view of an envelope arranged in accordance with the present invention; Fig. 2 shows in perspective a set of these envelopes partly assembled in preparation for manifolding; Fig. 3 is a transverse section through the assembled or nested envelopes; and Fig. 4 is a view, similar to Fig. 2, of a set of envelopes of another form, as they would appear in being assembled for manifolding.

To consider a particular application of the invention, let it be assumed that a set of envelopes, appearing in the drawing as four in number, are to receive the same inscription. These may be for use in connection with an advertising undertaking, in which a series of so-called follow-up communications are to be mailed under the address of one person; in notifying members of an organization of periodic meetings; for containing pay due at intervals to the same individual; or for many other uses which will suggest themselves. In accordance with this invention, a set 10 of the proper number of envelopes is so formed as to permit them to be assembled in a series. Preferably, they are arranged to nest one within another, being of gradually decreasing superficial dimensions from the outer envelope 11, to which the address is directly applied, to the inner 12, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Each of these envelopes is of that well-known form in which, by gummed flaps overlapping at the back, they are closed along three edges 13, there being a free flap 14 to permit the contents to be inserted and thereafter enclosed by the sealing of this flap. The front wall 15 of each envelope, the outer surface of which is to bear the address, carries over a suitable area 16 a manifolding substance, as a carbon-pigment, save the inner, from which it may be omitted. This pigment may be applied in any convenient manner, as directly to the paper of the envelope, or upon tissue attached thereto, lying with its active face in contact with the address-receiving surface of the next envelope of the set. When thus assembled and the address is typed or otherwise impressed upon the front 15 of the envelope 11, it will be transferred by each succeeding layer of pigment to the receiving surface beneath it, so that by one operation the entire set of envelopes will receive their inscriptions. If these are to be employed for the purpose first stated—the mailing of advertising letters—they may be removed from the nested set one by one as the communications are sent, and if one remains unused when a responsive order is received, this may be employed for the acknowledgement.

It is not essential to the invention that the envelopes which are to be assembled for the manifolding process shall for their nesting be closed along three edges, as in the form just described. They may, instead, be of the type appearing at 18 in Fig. 4, which, while giving the appearance of being sealed or constituting first class postal matter, is capable of being opened after closure for inspection by post-office officials by drawing out an unsealed flap 19 at one end. These envelopes, prior to the insertion of the contents and their closure, have the main flaps 20 and auxiliary flaps 19 projecting from the body substantially in the plane of the address-receiving wall 21. This leaves two edges closed at 22, and these edges of the successive envelopes of the nested set are brought together to establish registration of the coated areas 16 with the desired portions of the address-receiving surfaces when the inscription is applied to the outer envelope of the set. Otherwise, the arrange-

ment of envelopes and the manifold procedure may be as already described, save in this case it should be noted that no graduation in size is necessary to effect the nesting.

It will be evident, in whatever manner our invention is practised, that, operating within the limit of sufficiently clear manifolding, say ten copies, it will effect a marked saving over the laborious addressing of each copy separately, and also over the preparing of a special reproducing instrumentality for each address, as by arranging the separate characters for printing.

We claim:

1. A plurality of enclosing devices each having a wall provided with an outer surface to receive an inscription, at least one of said walls carrying upon the opposite inner surface a manifolding substance, the enclosing devices being formed to permit them to be assembled in a series with the inscription-receiving walls in registration, whereby an inscription applied to the outer enclosing device is reproduced upon others of the series.

2. A series of envelopes of gradually varying dimensions arranged one within another, the front wall of each envelope carrying upon its surface which contacts with another envelope of the series a layer of manifolding pigment.

Signed at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, this tenth day of November, 1921.

JOSEPH H. BONNEVILLE.
HAROLD S. BARNES.