F. O. BALOGH.

ENVELOPE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 3, 1920.

1,411,077. Patented Mar. 28, 1922.

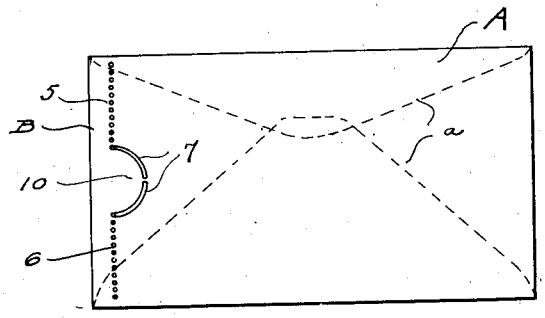

FIG. -1

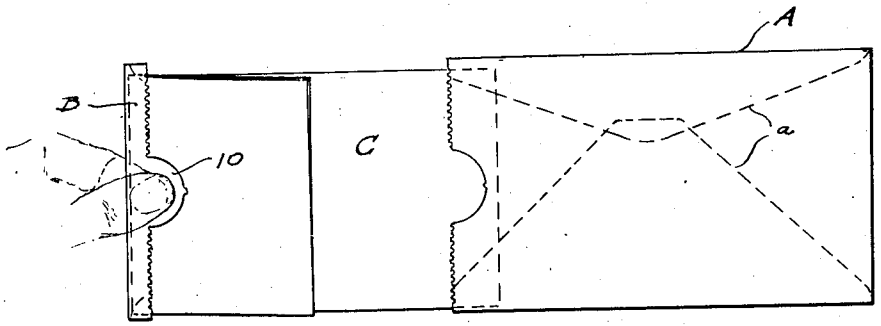

FIG. -2

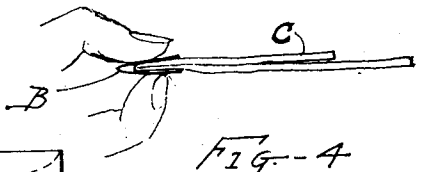

FIG. -4

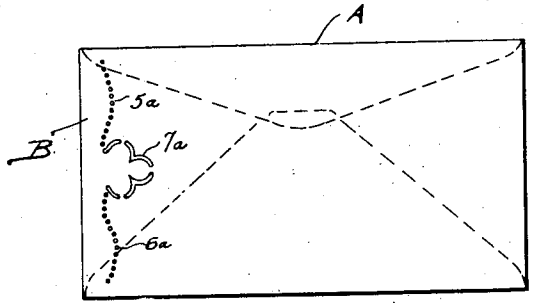

FIG. -3

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ENVELOPE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK O. BALOGH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lakewood, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Envelopes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The general purpose of this invention is to provide an envelope which shall be capable of being readily opened, after the contents are sealed therein, without the use of a paper knife or similar instrument. In carrying out my invention, I provide an envelope such as the usual mailing envelope, with a weakened portion along which the envelope may be readily severed or torn. I prefer to arrange this weakened portion transversely across the envelope, whereby the body of the envelope may remain intact after opening.

A further object of my invention is to so shape the line of weakening as to leave inwardly projecting flaps or tabs adapted to be gripped between the thumb and finger, whereby they may be pressed against the contents of the envelope and as a pull is given to remove the end of the envelope, thereby opening the same, the contents of the envelope are simultaneously withdrawn.

My invention is hereinafter illustrated in the accompanying drawings, showing a preferred embodiment thereof, and the following description is intended to make clear the above and other features of this invention as relates to the embodiment shown. The essential characteristics are summarized in the claim.

In the drawings Fig. 1 is an elevation of the front of an envelope, provided with the weakened portion and specially arranged tabs constituting my invention; Fig. 2 is a view showing the envelope as opened, with the contents being removed with the piece of the envelope at the end severed and carrying with it the contents; Fig. 3 illustrates a slightly modified form of the invention, with a view to giving the perforated portion an artistic effect; Fig. 4 is in the nature of a section or detail through the severed portion, showing the manner in which it embraces the contents.

Describing my invention more fully with the use of characters of reference, A indicates an envelope such as is usually used for mailing purposes, the broken lines *a* indicating the usual rear flaps. At the left hand end of the envelope I have shown a perforated line 5 extending from the upper portion of the envelope toward the middle, parallel with and adjacent to the left hand end thereof, and at 6 is a similar line of perforations similarly located, extending from the lower edge of the envelope toward the middle. At 7 are cuts or slits very narrow (enlarged in the drawings for clearness of illustration) shown as curved to form a tab or flap 10. It will be understood that these perforations or slits 5, 6 and 7 extend through both the front and back of the envelope. The tabs 10 are preferably only partially severed from the body of the envelope. The drawings show one connection, but obviously the lines 7 may be simply continuations of the weakened portions.

Assuming now that the envelope has been sealed, and it is desired to open the same, the tabs 10 are grasped between the thumb and finger of one hand, while the body of the envelope is held preferably adjacent the opposite end by the other hand, and by merely drawing outwardly while holding the tabs 10 firmly, the end portion designated B of the envelope is torn from the body thereof along the lines 5, 6 and 7, and the continued movement carries with it the contents of the envelope designated C, as illustrated particularly in Figs. 2 and 4.

The modification illustrated in Fig. 3 is identical in principle, but the lines 5^a, 6^a, and the slits 7^a are curved somewhat, as may be desired by the designer, to afford an ornate design.

It will be seen that the shape of the weakened lines may be varied at will, and it is to be understood that they may be formed by a series of slits or scorings, or by otherwise treating the paper to weaken it, whereby it affords sufficient strength to retain the contents, at the same time permitting the ready removal of the enclosure by the method described.

The inventor is aware of methods of opening envelopes by the use of weakened lines or perforations, but believes that he is the first to so arrange these weakened lines that the contents of the envelope may be grasped through the paper of that portion of the envelope removed by the tearing along the weakened lines, whereby the contents are simultaneously withdrawn.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

An envelope comprising a body portion having a top flap, a bottom flap and a pair of end flaps, said envelope having a row of perforations at the top and bottom adjacent one end thereof, said perforations extending through the envelope body, the top flap, the bottom flap and an end flap, said perforations terminating adjacent the middle of the envelope at spaced points, and a plurality of curved slots joining the ends of said rows of perforations to form a pulling tab, an unsevered portion of said end flap being located between said curved slots whereby the tab defined by said slots will be normally held in position.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature.

FRANK O. BALOGH.