

May 24, 1938.

V. E. HEYWOOD

2,118,706

DRY SEALING ENVELOPE

Filed June 14, 1937

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

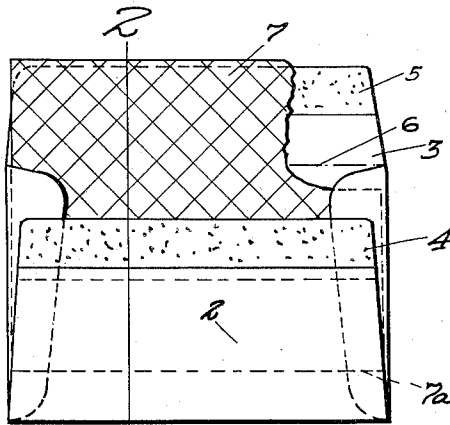


Fig. 1.

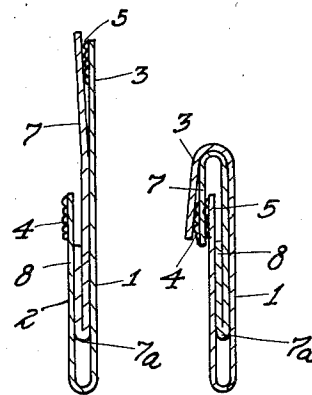


Fig. 2. Fig. 3.

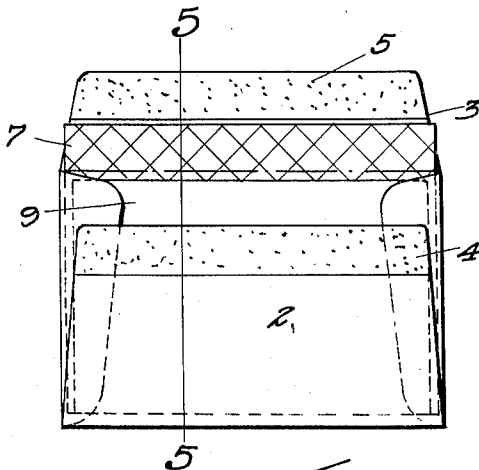


Fig. 4.

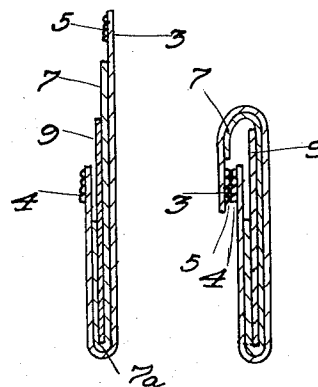


Fig. 5. Fig. 6.

Inventor:
Vincet H. Heywood
By
Owen W. Kennedy
Attorney

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3 Sheets-Sheet 2

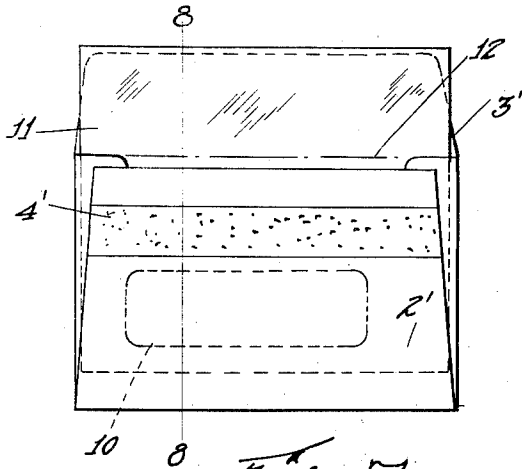


Fig. 7.

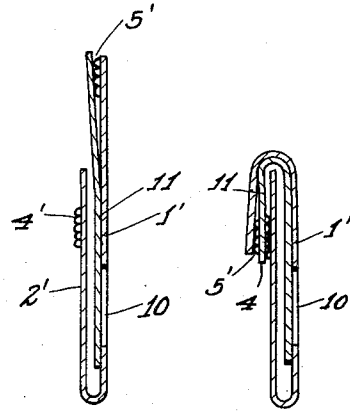


Fig. 8. Fig. 9.

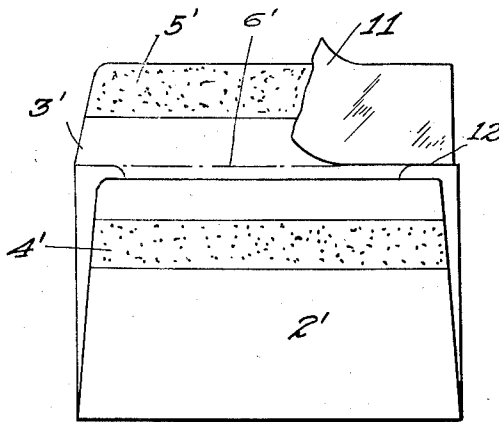


Fig. 10.

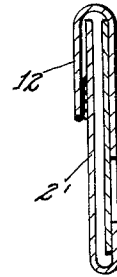


Fig. 11.

Inventor:
Vincent E. Heywood
By Owen W. Kennedy
Attorney

May 24, 1938.

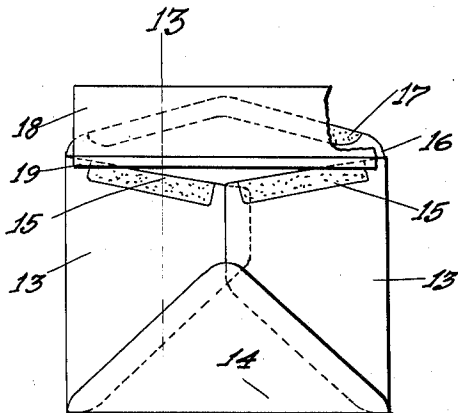
V. E. HEYWOOD

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DRY SEALING ENVELOPE

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13
Fig. 12.

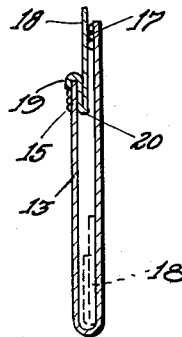
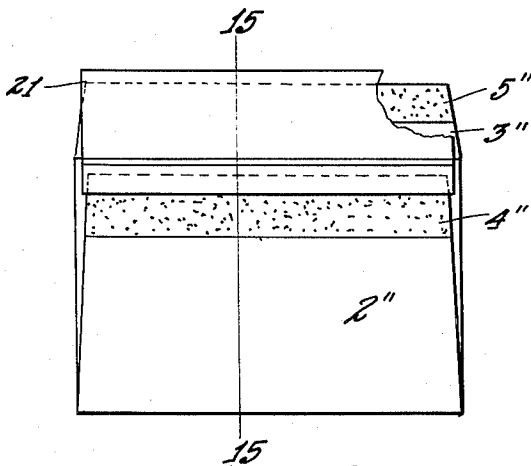


Fig. 13.



15
Fig. 14.

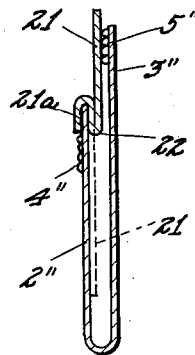


Fig. 15.

Inventor:
Vincet E. Heywood
By Owen W. Kennedy
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,118,706

DRY-SEALING ENVELOPE

Vincent E. Heywood, Worcester, Mass., assignor
to United States Envelope Company, Spring-
field, Mass., a corporation of Maine

Application June 14, 1937, Serial No. 148,119

16 Claims. (Cl. 229—89)

The present invention relates to dry-sealing envelopes or containers, i. e., envelopes that are adapted to be sealed by bringing areas coated with dry-sealing adhesive into non-moistened contact.

One extremely simple form of dry-sealing envelope is characterized by the provision of parallel bands of dry-sealing adhesive applied to the seal flap and body of the envelope, respectively, at substantially equal distances from the fold line of the seal flap; sealing being effected by merely folding over the flap to bring the adhesive areas into engagement. In order to prevent accidental engagement between the dry-sealing adhesive areas, prior to the loading and sealing of such envelopes, various expedients have heretofore been employed, in the nature of special folding over of the envelope material, or by providing additional material serving as an interleaf between the dry-sealing adhesive areas. All such expedients, however, for packing and handling without accidental engagement between the adhesive areas, add to the cost of producing dry-sealing envelopes.

According to the present invention, the problem of separating the dry-sealing adhesive areas is solved without adding appreciably to the cost of manufacture, by utilizing a portion of the envelope that ordinarily serves a different purpose. Thus, in an envelope providing a lining, such as is employed to render the envelope opaque, a portion of this lining is disposed between the dry-sealing adhesive areas to prevent their accidental engagement. Similarly, in an envelope employing a transparent window panel, a portion of the panel or patch material is utilized to separate the dry-sealing adhesive areas. The above and other advantageous features of the invention will hereinafter more fully appear from the following description, considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a plan view of an envelope providing a lining adapted to separate the dry-sealing adhesive areas.

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view, along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view, illustrating the packing of the envelope.

Fig. 4 shows the envelope loaded and ready for sealing.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view, along the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a sectional view, showing the envelope in sealed condition.

Fig. 7 is a plan view of an envelope providing window-patch material adapted to separate the dry-sealing adhesive areas.

Fig. 8 is a sectional view, along the line 8—8 of Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is a sectional view, illustrating the packing of the envelope.

Fig. 10 illustrates removal of a portion of the patch material, preparatory to sealing.

Fig. 11 is a sectional view, showing the envelope in sealed condition.

Figs. 12 and 13 are views similar to Figs. 1 and 2, illustrating a modified form of envelope, with a partial lining strip.

Figs. 14 and 15 are views illustrating a different arrangement of the lining strip.

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

Referring to the drawings, the envelope comprises opposed walls 1 and 2, with a seal flap 3 extending from the wall 1. The wall 2 and the flap 3 are provided with parallel bands of dry-sealing adhesive 4 and 5 that are disposed at equal distances from a light score line 6, between the flap 3 and wall 2. By the term "dry-sealing adhesive", is meant any adhesive which, when in a dry condition, has the property of adhering to itself upon non-moistened contact, although it will not so adhere to uncoated areas of the materials commonly employed in the manufacture of envelopes, or other containers.

The envelope also comprises a lining 7, preferably of tinted tissue, or other suitable opaque material ordinarily employed for envelope linings. The lining is of substantially the same width as the envelope pocket, and of a length somewhat less than the overall length of the blank from which the envelope is made.

As best shown in Fig. 2, the lining 7 is adhesively secured to the inside of the rear wall 2, as indicated at 8, from which point it extends downwardly inside the envelope pocket to a point considerably above the lower edge of the envelope. Here, the lining 7 is folded and extends upwardly outside of the envelope pocket, with its upper edge substantially coinciding with the margin of the seal flap 3. It is to be noted that the distance between the fold 7a of the lining 7 and the lower edge of the envelope pocket is substantially equal to the width of the band of adhesive 5 on the seal flap 3.

With the lining 7 arranged as described above, it is evident that when the seal flap 3 is folded over for packing the envelope, as shown in Fig. 3, a free portion of the lining 7 will be inter-

posed between the oppositely facing dry-sealing adhesive areas 4 and 5. Therefore, the dry-sealing adhesive will be effectively maintained out of accidental engagement, while entirely covered, and the envelope of Fig. 3 may be packed with others, in the usual manner.

When it is desired to load and seal the envelope of Fig. 1, the enclosure is inserted in the open mouth of the envelope in the usual manner, the enclosure being received between the opposed portions of the lining 7. As the enclosure is pushed down into the envelope pocket, it engages the fold 7a in the lining 7 and draws the free lining material above the fold downwardly towards the bottom of the envelope, the enclosure in its final position being indicated at 9 in dotted lines in Fig. 4. Since the upper portion of the lining 7 is free of the envelope wall 1, the insertion of the enclosure 9 is in no way hampered by the presence of the lining, which is thus drawn down readily to expose the adhesive 5 on the seal flap 3. The envelope may then be sealed by folding over the flap 3 to engage the opposed areas of dry-sealing adhesive 4 and 5, as shown in Fig. 6.

Referring now to Figs. 7 and 8, an envelope generally similar to the envelope of Fig. 1, comprises opposed walls 1' and 2', with dry-sealing adhesive 4' and 5' applied to the wall 2' and seal flap 3', respectively. The envelope also provides a window opening 10 in the wall 1', and this opening is covered by a panel or patch 11 of transparent material of the character ordinarily employed for window envelopes. The patch 11 is adhesively secured around the window opening 10, and extends freely above the window opening outside the envelope pocket, where it terminates substantially in line with the upper margin of the seal flap 3'.

The patch material 11 provides a line of light scoring or perforations 12 substantially coinciding with the score line 6' of the seal flap 3'. Consequently, the relatively stiff patch material 11 readily folds over with the seal flap 3', as indicated in Fig. 9, where it separates the areas of dry-sealing adhesive 4' and 5', and so permits the envelope to be packed with others, in the usual manner.

When it is desired to load and seal the envelope, the seal flap 3' is turned back as shown in Fig. 7, and the surplus patch material 11 extending beyond the mouth of the envelope, can be readily torn along the scored or perforated fold line 12, as indicated in Fig. 10. This removal of the patch material exposes the adhesive 5' on the seal flap 3', and the envelope can readily be sealed after loading by folding over the flap 3' to engage the areas of dry-sealing adhesive 4' and 5', as shown in Fig. 11.

Referring now to Figs. 12 and 13, the invention is shown as being embodied in a modified form of envelope, in which the rear wall comprises side flaps 13 and a bottom flap 14, with areas 15 of dry-sealing adhesive applied to the side flaps 13. The seal flap 16 provides a dry-sealing adhesive area 17, adapted to contact the adhesive areas 15 when the flap 16 is folded over.

A strip 18, preferably composed of tissue material similar to the lining 7, is disposed in the mouth of the envelope pocket, with one margin of the strip 18 folded over the edge of the side flaps 13 to form a lip 19, which holds the strip in position. The remainder of the strip 18 extends within the envelope pocket for a short distance, where it is folded as indicated at 20, and

then extends upwardly outside of the envelope pocket, with its upper free edge substantially coinciding with the margin of the seal flap 16. Thus, the envelope of Fig. 12 may be packed in the same manner as described with reference to Fig. 3, with a portion of the strip 18 disposed between the oppositely facing dry-sealing adhesive areas 17 and 15.

When it is desired to load and seal the envelope of Fig. 12, the enclosure is inserted in the open mouth of the envelope in the usual manner, and as it is pushed down, it engages the fold 20a and draws the strip 18 downwardly to the bottom of the envelope, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 13. Since the holding lip 19 is relatively narrow, the insertion of the enclosure readily draws the lip back, so that the entire strip is forced downwardly into the envelope pocket to expose the adhesive 17 on the seal flap 16, preparatory to sealing by folding over the flap 16.

Referring to Figs. 14 and 15, an envelope similar to the envelope of Fig. 1, provides dry-sealing adhesive areas 4'' and 5'' applied to the wall 2'' and seal flap 3'', respectively. The adhesive 4'' is spaced from the upper edge of the wall 2'' and a strip 21 is folded over this edge and secured to the wall above the adhesive 4'', as indicated at 21a. The remainder of the strip 21 extends within the envelope pocket where it is folded at 22 and then extends upwardly outside of the pocket to substantially coincide with the seal flap 3''. When loading the envelope of Fig. 14, the enclosure engages the fold 22 and readily draws the free portion of the strip downwardly, as indicated in dotted lines, to expose the seal flap adhesive 5'', preparatory to sealing.

From the foregoing, it is apparent that by the present invention there is provided a dry-sealing envelope, characterized by the utilization of material ordinarily employed for a lining or a window patch to separate the dry-sealing adhesive areas when packing or otherwise handling the envelope, in advance of loading and sealing.

I claim:

1. An envelope having its body and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a free portion extending from inside the envelope pocket for separating said dry-sealing adhesive areas when said flap is folded over for packing the envelope.

2. An envelope having its body and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a free portion extending from inside the envelope pocket for maintaining said dry-sealing adhesive out of engagement when said flap is folded over for packing the envelope, with said adhesive areas in overlying relation.

3. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a free portion extending from within the envelope pocket and coextensive with said flap for disposal between said dry-sealing adhesive areas when said flap is folded over for packing the envelope.

4. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a free portion extending from within the envelope pocket and coextensive with said flap for maintaining said dry-sealing adhesive areas out of engagement when said flap is folded over for packing the envelope, with said adhesive areas in overlying relation.

5. An envelope having its body and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a lining for the envelope pocket providing a free portion disposed between said dry-sealing adhesive

sive areas when said flap is folded over for packing the envelope.

6. An envelope having its body and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a lining for the envelope pocket providing a free portion extending outside the pocket and foldable with said flap to separate said dry-sealing adhesive areas.

7. An envelope having its body and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a lining for the envelope pocket providing a free portion extending outside the pocket and foldable with said flap to separate said dry-sealing adhesive areas, and thereby permit packing said envelope with said adhesive areas in overlying relation.

8. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a lining attached to the inside of said wall and extending freely outside of the envelope pocket for separating said dry-sealing adhesive areas when said flap is folded over.

9. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a lining attached to the inside of said wall and extending freely outside of the envelope pocket for maintaining said dry-sealing adhesive areas out of engagement when said flap is folded over, for packing said envelope with said adhesive areas in overlying relation.

10. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a lining attached to the inside of said wall and extending freely outside of the envelope pocket for covering the adhesive area on said flap.

11. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a lining attached to the inside of said wall and extending freely outside of the envelope pocket for covering the adhesive area on said flap, insertion of an enclosure within the envelope serving to draw the extending portion of the lining within the pocket to uncover said flap adhesive area.

12. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive, with the other envelope wall providing a window opening, and a patch covering said opening and extending freely outside of the envelope pocket for separating said dry-sealing adhesive areas when said flap is folded over.

13. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive, with the other envelope wall providing a window opening, and a transparent patch covering said opening and extending freely outside of the envelope pocket for maintaining said dry-sealing adhesive areas out of engagement when said flap is folded over, for packing said envelope with said adhesive areas in overlying relation.

14. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive, with the other envelope wall providing a window opening and a transparent patch covering said opening and extending freely outside of the envelope pocket for separating said dry-sealing adhesive areas when said flap is folded over, the extending portion of said patch being removable to permit engagement of said adhesive areas for sealing.

15. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a strip disposed partially within the envelope pocket and providing a portion extending freely outside of the pocket for separating said dry-sealing adhesive areas when the said flap is folded over.

16. An envelope having one wall and a flap provided with areas of dry-sealing adhesive and a strip disposed partially within the envelope pocket and providing a portion extending freely outside of the pocket for separating said dry-sealing adhesive areas when the said flap is folded over, said strip being folded over the free edge of said wall and being attached to the outside of said wall adjacent to the wall adhesive area.

VINCENT E. HEYWOOD.