A. H. SWETT.

ENVELOP.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 4, 1919.

1,371,403. **Patented Mar. 15, 1921.**

Fig. 1.

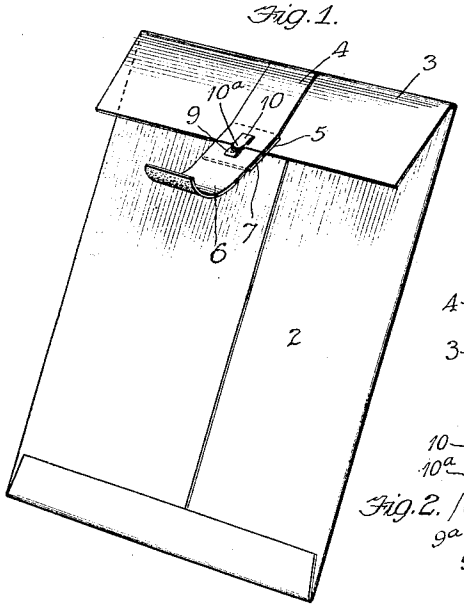


Fig. 2.

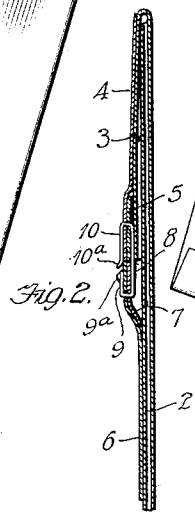


Fig 1.

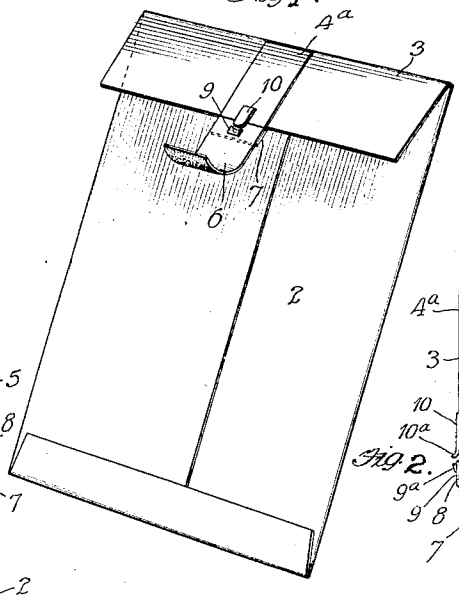


Fig. 2.

Fig. 7.

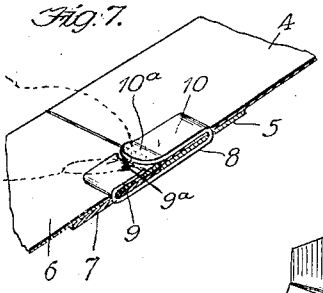


Fig. 3.

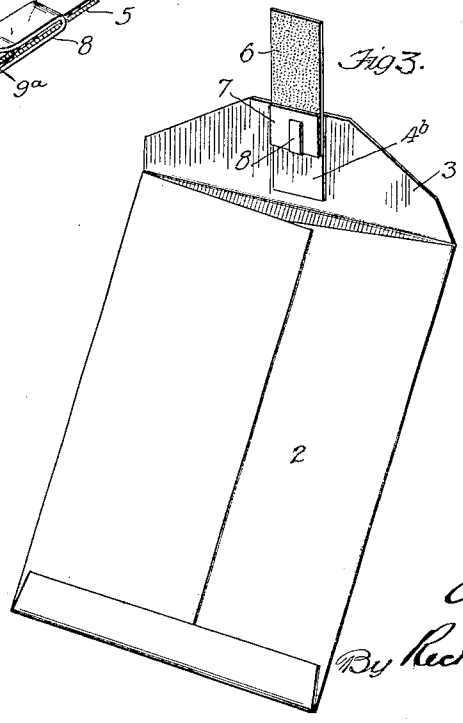
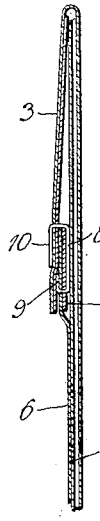


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ENVELOP.

1,371,403. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 15, 1921.

Application filed April 4, 1919. Serial No. 287,500.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR H. SWETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

The object of the present invention is to provide an envelop whose flap will carry and have as a part thereof a complete closure or sticker fastening of separable members normally united together and to the envelop flap stiffly in clamped and flat relationship without any protruding points or edges so exposed as to catch upon other objects.

In the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification two different forms of embodiment of the invention are illustrated, that is to say two differing envelop constructions. Figure 1 represents in perspective an envelop having one form of construction embodying the present invention; Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal central section of said envelop in closed condition as contrasted with the open condition illustrated in Fig. 1; Figs. 3 and 4 are similar views of a modified construction embodying the invention.

Referring first to Figs. 1 and 2, the numeral 2 designates the body of the envelop and 3 the flap. The reference numeral 4^a designates a piece of Manila paper gummed on the under-side and stuck to the central portion of the envelop flap vertically thereof. This piece preferably alines at its top edge with the fold of the flap, and it is stuck to the envelop flap throughout the length of the piece, *i. e.*, from the fold of the envelop flap to its free edge. The reference numeral 6 designates another piece of Manila paper similar to the piece 4 and gummed on its under-side and having a reinforcing strip 7 stuck to its under-side at the upper portion so as to constitute with this portion of the piece 6 a pliable flap. The edge of the latter directly confronts the lower edge of the piece 4^a and of the envelop flap so that these two flaps lie in the same plane. The fastening structure is completed by a metallic clip which clamps the parts securely together in stiff unbending relationship. This clip is made of a piece of flat thin metal whose body portion 8 lies against the under-side of the flap 7 and the envelop flap, and the clip is stapled through these flaps and anchored in the flap 7 by the clamping down upon the latter of a relatively short tongue 9. A longer tongue 10, formed primarily as the other leg of the staple, extends through the envelop flap and the piece 4^a and is clamped upon the latter and extends over the flap 7 into proximity to the short tongue 9.

To close the envelop it is only necessary to moisten the gummed under-surface of the piece 6 and flatten the envelop flap and this piece down upon the body of the envelop. To thereafter open the envelop the procedure is to bend out the longer tongue 10 (facilitated by a special formation of the clip hereinafter described) and then to turn it back and lift the envelop flap, sliding it off the bent-back tongue. Obviously the envelop can be again closed by turning down its flap and causing the said tongue to again occupy the slit made by the stapling operation and then bending and flattening down the tongue. The end of the tongue 10 is slightly bent outwardly and preferably rounded, the part in question being designated 10^a. The object of this is to separate the extremity of the tongue from the underlying paper surface and thereby facilitate the insertion of the thumb-nail for bending up the tongue. In order to prevent such formation from leading to the protuberance and exposure of an edge of metal which might catch upon any object, the other and shorter tongue 9 which is rounded out to conform with the rounded end of the tongue 10, is given a crown-like or hump formation as at 9^a, so that it may serve as a guard confronting the up-turned end of the tongue 10 to prevent the latter being so exposed as to catch upon anything.

In the construction shown by Figs. 3 and 4 the envelop body and flap are again designated by numerals 2 and 3 respectively. Here the piece of Manila paper corresponding with that designated 4^a in Figs. 1 and 2 is designated by the numeral 4^b and instead of being stuck on the outer side of the envelop flap it is stuck on the inner side thereof and it does not extend quite to the fold of the flap for it might then prevent the smooth flattening down of that flap. It does extend to the free edge of the flap as does the piece 4^a in the Fig. 1 construction. The numerals 6 and 7 are again used to designate the other piece of Manila paper and its reinforcing strip, but here, unlike the Fig. 1 construction, the reinforced part of the

piece 6 underlies the envelop flap and is clamped against the piece 4^b. The metal clip is of the same general form as that shown in Figs. 1 and 2, but here the upper staple leg bends past the upper edge of the flap 7, thence passing through the piece 4^b and the envelop flap and the tongue 10 is bent down and clamped against the latter. In this construction this tongue 10 and the shorter tongue 9 are perfectly flat, the latter being clamped against the outer side of the flap 7.

It will be seen that the constructions above described provide for the convenient closing and sealing of an envelop without any manipulation of separable fastening elements. The application of the latter will in practice be done mechanically in the first instance as a manufacturing operation in the equipment of the envelops with a separable sealing device, the gummed piece or pieces being applied and the complete stapling of the parts together in flat and stiff relationship being effected so that the closing of the envelop merely involves moistening the gummed piece that projects from the flap and closing down the flap, together with this piece, which will be pressed upon the body of the envelop. It is important to note that no manipulation of any metal clip or like device is required for the initial closing of the envelop. Former familiar types of envelops which do require such manipulation have caused trouble by reason of the effect upon the fingers of operatives in establishments where large numbers of envelops are used requiring repeated and long continued fingering of metal clips involving contact with the edges thereof.

I claim:

1. An envelop having a sticker-fastening stapled to its flap, said fastening comprising a gummed piece and a metal clip anchored therein adjacent the envelop flap and extending through the latter and clamped thereto whereby the said piece and envelop flap are flatly and stiffly united and the two together are adapted to be flattened against the body of the envelop with the gummed piece moistened and the complete closure of the envelop effected without manipulating the separable fastener elements.

2. An envelop having a sticker-fastening stapled to its flap, said fastening comprising a gummed piece applied to the said flap, another gummed piece projecting therefrom, and a metal clip with its body portion lying against the underside of the projecting piece and a tongue extending through the latter and clamped upon it and another tongue extending through the first mentioned gummed piece and the envelop flap and clamped upon them.

3. An envelop having a sticker-fastening comprising a gummed piece applied throughout to the flap of the envelop and having an edge coincident with the free edge thereof, another and separate gummed piece extending therefrom and having a non-adhesive flap-portion with its edge confronting that of the first-mentioned piece and the coincident free edge of the envelop, and a flat metal clip anchored in the said flap-portion with its body portion against the under side thereof and extending under the envelop flap and a pliable tongue extending through the latter and first-mentioned piece and flattened down over the same, whereby the envelop flap and the two pieces and the clip are unified as a sticker fastening for application to the body of the envelop.

ARTHUR H. SWETT.