April 1, 1952 J. O'NEILL 2,591,094

COMBINED SEALING TAB AND BOOKMARK

Filed June 16, 1950

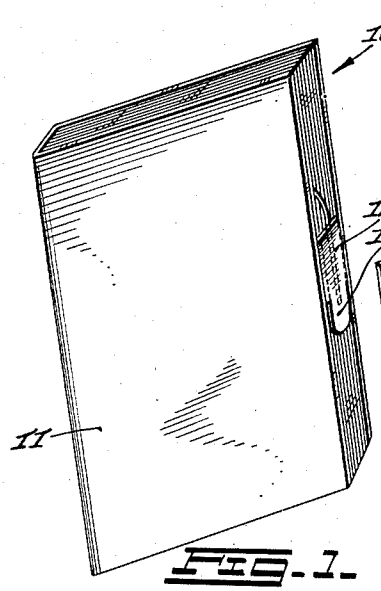


FIG. 1.

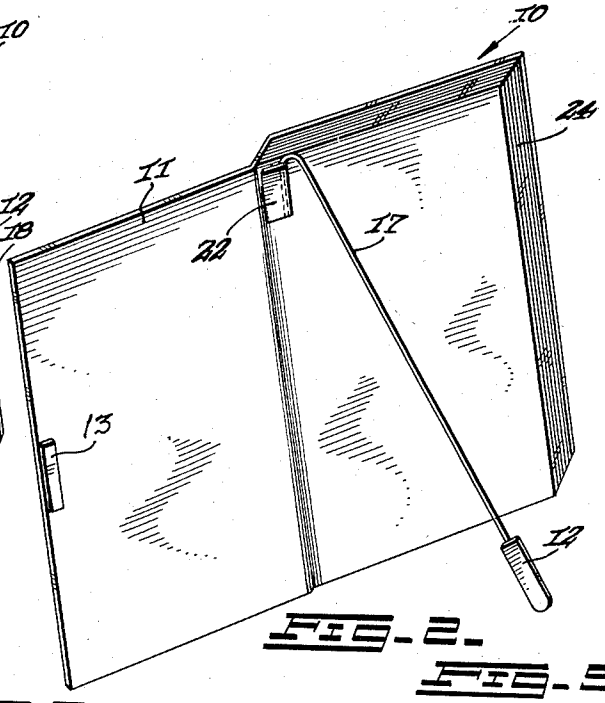


FIG. 2.

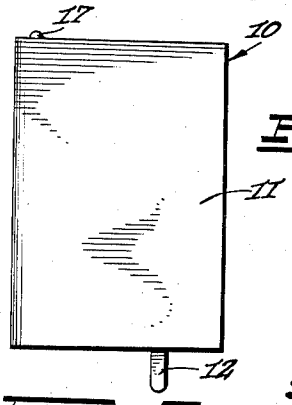


FIG. 3.

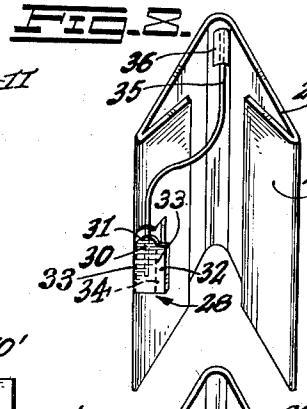


FIG. 8.

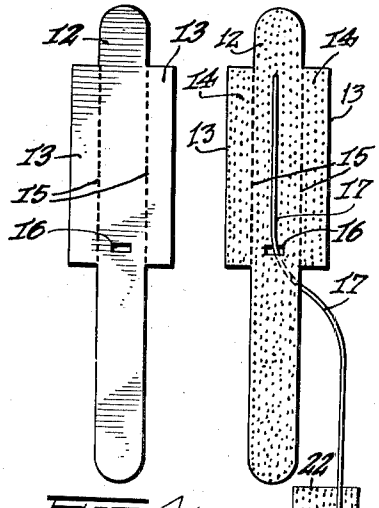


FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.

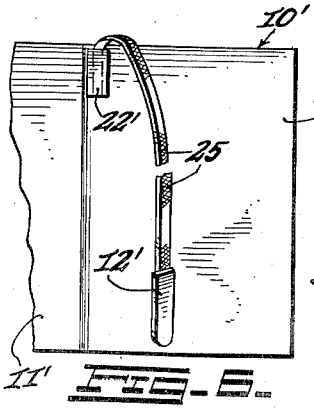


FIG. 6.

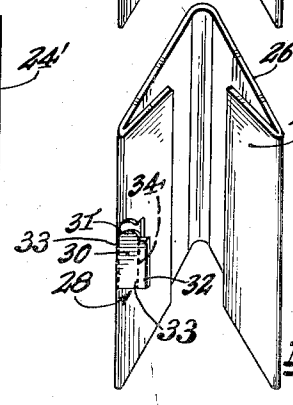


FIG. 7.

INVENTOR.
JAMES O'NEILL
BY
ATTORNEY.

Patented Apr. 1, 1952

2,591,094

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,591,094

COMBINED SEALING TAB AND BOOKMARK

James O'Neill, New York, N. Y.

Application June 16, 1950, Serial No. 168,623

6 Claims. (Cl. 281—42)

1

This invention relates to new and improved means for sealing a book or magazine prior to its sale.

It has been found that the proprietors of book stores and the like suffer substantial financial losses due to the handling and "thumbing through" of books and magazines by prospective buyers thereof. The thumbed through books soon become "dog-eared" and otherwise damaged and must be sold at a reduced price, causing a financial loss to the proprietor of the store.

It has been proposed to cure this condition by sealing the books or magazines each in a transparent cover, and also by other means. All known, proposed cures for the condition have been found unsatisfactory, however, in that they proved to be too expensive, or so obscured the jacket of the book that prospective buyers could not satisfactorily read the printed matter thereon.

One object of the invention is the provision of simple and inexpensive means for sealing books and the like prior to their purchase, which means obscure no part of the jacket of the book.

Another object of the invention is to construct said sealing means so that the same can readily be removed when the book has been purchased.

A further object of the invention is to construct said sealing means so that the same is adapted to be used as a book mark when its sealing function has been completed.

Still another object of the invention is to construct said means so that the same may have advertising matter printed thereon.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a paper covered book sealed by the means of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of said book with the seal broken and the front cover folded open.

Fig. 3 is a frontal view of the book and illustrates the use of the said means as a book mark.

Fig. 4 is a view of one face of the sealing means.

Fig. 5 is a view of the other face of the sealing means and shows also the means for anchoring the same in place to act as a book mark.

Fig. 6 is a frontal view of the book with the front cover folded open, and illustrates a modified connection between the sealing means and the anchoring means.

2

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a modified form of the invention.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of another modified form of the invention.

The book sealing means, according to the first form of the present invention is shown in Figs. 1 to 5, as applied to a paper covered book 10, having a front cover 11. The sealing means includes a member 12 preferably of paper or cellophane or the like. Member 12 is in the form of a strip having on either side thereof a short tab 13 and is provided on the one face thereof with an adhesive coating 14. Between the strip portion of member 12 and each tab 13 there is provided a scored line 15 by which the member is readily separated from the tabs. The center strip of member 12 is provided with a slot or hole 16 between the tabs 13 and a short distance from the longitudinal center of said strip. A length of string 17 is passed through the hole 16 and extended along the adhesively coated side of the center strip of member 12 between the tabs 13. The purpose of string 17 will be explained hereinafter.

As can be seen in Fig. 1, the strip portion of member 12 is folded back on itself about the string 17, the two halves being secured together by the adhesive coating 14. When so folded the said center strip terminates at one end coincidentally with one end of the tabs 13 and at the other end projects somewhat beyond said tabs to form a finger piece or tab 18.

In order to seal the book 10 the strip 12 is placed against the free ends of the pages of the book and the tabs 13 are secured by their adhesive coating one to the inner face of the front cover 11 of the book and the other to the inner face of the rear cover of the book. Thus the covers of the book are secured together, effectively sealing the book without covering any part of the outer faces of the covers thereof.

To unseal the book all that is required is to grasp the finger piece 18 and tear the strip 12 free of the tabs 13 along the scored lines 15, leaving said tabs 13 secured to the inner faces of the covers of the book.

The string 17 which, as mentioned above, is secured to the strip 12, has for its purpose to combine with said strip when the latter is detached from tabs 13 to form a book mark. To this end the other end of the string 17 is secured in a fold 21 of a patch 22 having an adhesive substance 23 on one face thereof, as shown in

Fig. 5. The patch 22 preferably is of the same material as strip member 12 and is secured by its adhesive coating 23 to the upper left-hand corner of the first page 24 of the book 10. When the strip 12 is engaged with the tabs 13, and the book is sealed, the string 17 extends from the said strip between the front cover 11 and the first page 24 of the book to the anchor patch 22. When the strip 12 is disengaged from the tabs 13, it and the string 17 combine to form a book mark as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

It is to be mentioned at this point that when the means of the invention is applied to cloth bound books the patch 22 preferably is secured in the backing of the binding rather than on the first page thereof. Otherwise, the means of the invention is applied to such books in the same manner as described above.

A modified form of the invention is illustrated in Fig. 6 wherein like parts are given the same reference numerals as hereinabove with a prime added. In this form of the invention the string 17 is replaced by a length of tape 25 on which may be printed advertising matter. In all other respects this form of the invention is as described above.

It is generally the practice to provide new cloth bound books with a paper jacket on which a scene or the like illustrative of the contents of the book is printed. In such instances it is desired that the sealing means engage the paper jacket rather than the covers of the book. To this end a modified form of the invention is illustrated in Fig. 7. Referring to said figure the reference numeral 26 indicates a paper jacket for a cloth bound book, said jacket being provided with a pair of flaps 27 which are folded between the covers and the pages of the book to secure the jacket on the book. According to the invention a sealing flap 28 is formed on one of the flaps 27 at the juncture thereof with the main portion of jacket 26, preferably by stamping. The flap 28 comprises a longitudinal strip 30 having a tab 31 at one end thereof and a tab 32 on the one side thereof, said tab 32 extending from the base of the tab 31 to the opposite end of the strip. Scored lines 33 are provided on either side of strip 30, that is, between the strip and the tab 32 and between the strip and the main portion of flap 27. The outer face of the tab 32 is provided with an adhesive coating 34 whereby the same may be secured to the opposite flap 27 to seal the book.

It will be seen that to seal a book on which the jacket 26 is located, all that is required is to place the strip 30 against the free edges of the pages thereof and secure the tab 32 against the opposite flap 27. To remove the seal, the tab 31 is grasped in the fingers and the strip 30 torn free along the scored lines 33.

If desired the strip 30 may have secured thereto a length of string, tape or ribbon 35 which, as shown in Fig. 8, may be anchored at its other end by a patch 36 to the inner face of the jacket 26 at the back thereof. Thus, a book mark is provided in substantially the same manner as described above. It is to be mentioned that when the jacket is in place on a book and the book is sealed as aforesaid, the string 35 extends from strip 30 between the cover and the first page of the book and over the back of the book to its anchor.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. In a combined book mark and seal for a book having front and rear covers and a plurality of pages therebetween, a paper jacket adapted to be engaged about the outer faces of the covers with flaps folded inside each of the covers, a patch secured to the inner face of said jacket at the back thereof, a string secured at one end to said patch, a sealing member formed on one of said flaps at the fold line thereof, said sealing member including a longitudinal strip to which said string is secured, a tab on the end of said strip, a tab on the side of said strip, scored lines on either side of the strip, and an adhesive coating on the outer face of said latter tab for securing the same to the other flap, whereby said first tab and said strip can be torn free of said flaps along said scored lines, the string and the strip then forming a book mark.

2. In a combined book mark and seal for a book having front and rear covers, a jacket adapted to be engaged about the outer faces of the covers, flaps on the ends of the jacket at the free edges of the covers adapted to be folded to extend along the inner face of the covers, an elongated strip integral along one longitudinal edge with one of said flaps at the fold line thereof, a score line extended along the said one longitudinal edge, a string secured at one end to the inner face of said jacket remote from said flaps and secured at its other end to said strip, a tab along the other longitudinal edge of said strip, a score line separating said tab from said strip, and adhesive on the outer face of said tab for securing said tab to the other flap of said jacket.

3. In a combined book mark and seal for a book having front and rear covers, a jacket adapted to be engaged about the outer faces of the covers, flaps on the ends of the jacket at the free edges of the covers adapted to be folded to extend along the inner faces of the covers, an elongated strip integral along one longitudinal edge with one of said flaps at the fold line thereof, a score line extended along the said one longitudinal edge, a string secured at one end to the inner face of said jacket remote from said flaps and secured at its other end to said strip, a tab along the other longitudinal edge of said strip, a score line separating said tab from said strip, adhesive on the outer face of said tab for securing said tab to the other flap of said jacket, and means for gripping said strip to tear it free along said score lines freeing said flaps and leaving said strip and string free to be used as a book mark.

4. In a combined book mark and seal for a book having front and rear covers, a jacket adapted to be engaged about the outer faces of the covers, flaps on the ends of the jacket at the free edges of the covers adapted to be folded to extend along the inner faces of the covers, an elongated strip integral along one longitudinal edge with one of said flaps at the fold line thereof, a score line extended along the said one longitudinal edge, a string secured at one end to the inner face of said jacket remote from said flaps and secured at its other end to said strip, a tab along the other longitudinal edge of said

strip, a score line separating said tab from said strip, adhesive on the outer face of said tab for securing said tab to the other flap of said jacket, and means for gripping said strip to tear it free along said score lines freeing said flaps and leaving said strip and string free to be used as a book mark, said means for gripping comprising a tab extending from one end of said strip.

5. In a combined book mark and seal for a book having front and rear covers, a jacket adapted to be engaged about the outer faces of the covers of the book, flaps on the ends of the jacket at the free edges of the covers adapted to be folded to extend along the inner faces of the covers, an elongated strip integral along one longitudinal edge with one of said flaps at the fold line thereof, a string secured at one end to the inner face of said jacket remote from said flaps and secured at its other end to said strip, a tab along the other longitudinal edge of said strip, adhesive on the outer face of said tab for securing said tab to the other flap of said jacket, and means facilitating tearing said strip free from the said one flap and said tab freeing the flaps of the jacket and leaving said strip and string free to be used as a book mark.

6. In a combined book mark and seal for a book having front and rear covers, a jacket adapted to be engaged about the outer faces of the covers of the book, flaps on the ends of the jacket at the free edges of the covers adapted to be folded to extend along the inner faces of the covers, an elongated strip integral along one longitudinal edge with one of said flaps at the fold line thereof, a string secured at one end to the

inner face of said jacket remote from said flaps and secured at its other end to said strip, a tab along the other longitudinal edge of said strip, adhesive on the outer face of said tab for securing said tab to the other flap of said jacket, and means facilitating tearing said strip free from the said one flap and said tab freeing the flaps of the jacket and leaving said strip and string free to be used as a book mark, said means facilitating tearing comprising a score line extended along the said one longitudinal edge of said strip, a second score line separating said strip from said flap, and a second tab extending from one end of said strip by which said strip can be gripped to be torn along said score lines.

JAMES O'NEILL.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
432,189	Martineau	July 15, 1890
784,205	Cirjean	Mar. 7, 1905
1,199,058	Dillon	Sept. 26, 1916
1,244,886	Niver	Oct. 30, 1917
1,479,791	Degenring	Jan. 8, 1924
2,034,413	Ottinger	Mar. 17, 1936
2,330,619	Pomeranz	Sept. 28, 1943

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
49,747	Germany	Nov. 26, 1889
793,840	France	Feb. 1, 1936