

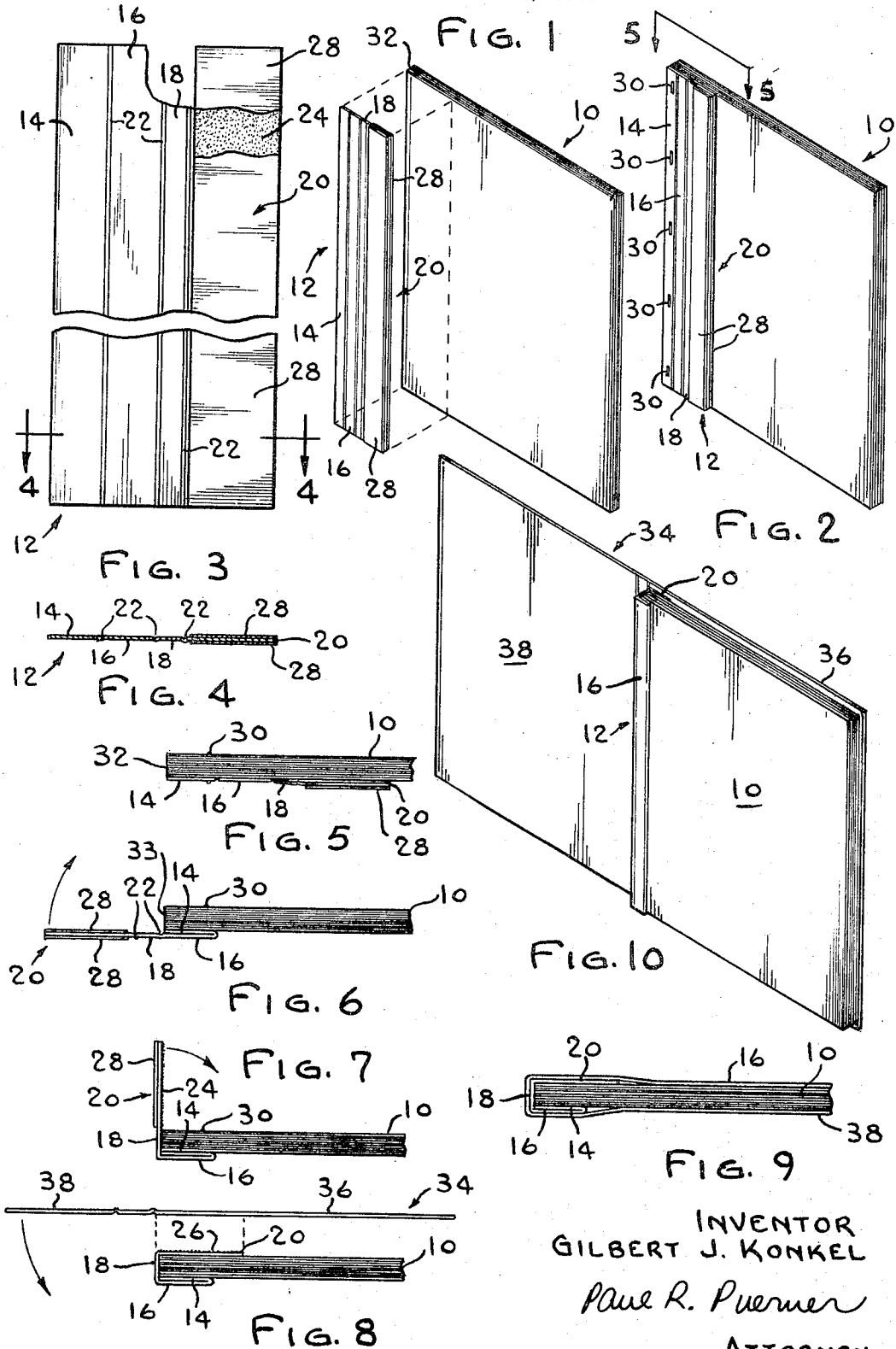
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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR BINDING A MANUSCRIPT

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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR BINDING A MANUSCRIPT

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This invention relates to an improved method and apparatus for binding a manuscript.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved manuscript binding arrangement which is simple and easy to assemble, requires only a few relatively inexpensive parts, and produces a manuscript having a pleasing appearance.

The objects of this invention are attained by first providing a binding strip of special design having first, second, third and fourth sections running the length thereof. The fourth section of said binding strip is provided with an adhesive material on both faces thereof, such adhesive faces being covered by protective strips.

The first step is to fasten the first section of the binding strip to the manuscript along the margin of one face thereof. The second step is to remove the protective strip from one face of the fourth section. The binding strip is then folded back around the edge of the manuscript so that the second section thereof will overlie the first section thereof. The exposed adhesive face of said fourth section is then pressed into contact with the margin of the opposite face of the manuscript. The protective strip is then removed from the other face of the fourth section. The final step is the attachment of a cover member by pressing the cover member into contact with the exposed other face of the fourth section of the binding strip.

Other objects and advantages will be pointed out in, or be apparent from, the description and claims, as will obvious modifications of the single embodiment shown in the drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the parts prior to the first step in their assembly;

FIG. 2 is a perspective view similar to FIG. 1 but showing the parts after the first assembly step has been performed;

FIG. 3 is a side elevation view with parts broken away showing the specially designed binding strip used in this invention;

FIG. 4 is a sectional view taken along line 4-4 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary top plan view taken along line 5-5 of FIG. 2;

FIGS. 6, 7, 8 and 9 are end views similar to FIG. 5 showing the parts as they are manipulated through the sequential steps performed in assembling a finished manuscript; and

FIG. 10 is a perspective view of the finished manuscript with the cover thereof folded to its open position.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, FIG. 1 shows a manuscript 10 of the type particularly adapted for use in the practice of this invention such as an accountant's report, legal brief, etc. While this invention is not limited to assembling manuscripts of this type, it has particular usefulness in binding manuscripts having so-called soft covers and a limited number of pages.

A binding strip member 12 specially designed for use in the method and apparatus of this invention is shown in detail in FIGS. 3 and 4 and is comprised of sections numbered 14, 16, 18 and 20 having score marks 22 therebetween to facilitate folding of the sections. In the preferred embodiment, the entire strip 12 is made from a strong paper material, with section 20 thereof provided

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with a pressure sensitive adhesive material on both faces 24 and 26 thereof. Adhesive faces 24, 26 are protected by covering strips 28 which serve to cover and protect the adhesive portion up to the point when strip member 12 is assembled on the manuscript.

The invention can best be described by proceeding with a detailed description of the various steps employed in producing a finished manuscript like that shown in FIGS. 9 and 10. The first step in the assembly of the parts is shown in FIG. 2 wherein the strip member 12 is placed on the front page of the unbound manuscript 10 and fastened thereto along the left margin of the manuscript by stapling or other suitable method with the staples 30 passing through section 14 of the strip and also through the body of the manuscript itself. Staples 30 thus serve both to attach the strip to the manuscript and to bind the various pages of the manuscript together along the left margin thereof. While it is preferable that the attachment of the strip be made by stapling it should be understood that other means of attachment such as adhesive, riveting, etc. may be employed.

After the strip member 12 has been attached as shown in FIGS. 2 and 5, the next step is to remove cover strip 28 from face 24 of section 20 and then fold the strip back and around the exposed left hand edge 32 of the manuscript in the direction of the arrows as shown in FIGS. 6 and 7 to the position shown in FIG. 8 wherein section 18 of the strip lies adjacent the left hand edge 32 of the manuscript and the section 20 of the strip lies flush with and becomes adhered to the back page of the manuscript. With the parts in the FIG. 8 position section 16 of the strip member will be folded back over and lay flush with section 14 of the strip to thus completely hide staples 30 from view.

The next step is to remove the covering strip 28 from the face 26 of section 20. With the adhesive side 26 thus exposed the one-piece cover member 34 for the manuscript can then be adhered to such adhesive area as shown in FIG. 8. With the back panel 36 of the cover member thus secured to the assembled binding strip 12 and manuscript 10 the front cover panel 38 of the cover is then folded in the direction shown by the arrow in FIG. 8 around to the front of the manuscript to complete the assembly thereof.

The finished product is shown in FIGS. 9 and 10. It will be noted that such finished product presents a manuscript having a cover which completely covers the bound portion of the manuscript leaving no staples, rivets, or other fastening means exposed on the exterior of the manuscript.

Furthermore, the manuscript when open as shown in FIG. 10 will expose only section 16 of the binding strip. Here again, with the cover open, the staples or other fastening means are completely hidden from view. The result is a manuscript having a very neat and pleasing appearance with a binding which is not excessively bulky. The resulting manuscript is, as explained above, bound by using only a single binding strip of relatively inexpensive design following only a few easily performed steps requiring no specialized skill or equipment to perform.

It should be understood that while the binding procedure described started by fastening strip 12 to the front page of manuscript 10 such strip could as an alternative be secured to the back page of the manuscript. Such reverse procedure would result in a manuscript wherein the front cover panel and manuscript pages would be somewhat more difficult to turn and thus the first described procedure is preferred.

Although but one embodiment of the present invention has been illustrated and described, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various changes and modifi-

cations may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention or from the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An improved binding arrangement for a manuscript comprising:

an elongated binding strip member having four adjacent sections running the length thereof with a first section fastened to one face of the manuscript, a second section folded back against said first section, a third section lying opposite the edge of the manuscript and having a width substantially equal to the thickness of the manuscript, and a fourth section having one face thereof adhered to the opposite face of the manuscript; and

a cover member for said manuscript adhered to the opposite face of said fourth section of said binding strip member.

2. An improved binding arrangement according to claim 1 in which said first section of said binding strip is attached to said manuscript by a plurality of fastener members which serve to hold the several pages of the manuscript together.

3. An improved binding arrangement according to claim 1 in which said faces of said fourth section of said binding strip member are provided with an adhesive material thereon.

4. An improved binding arrangement according to claim 3 in which said adhesive faces of said fourth section are covered with protective covering strips prior to assembly.

5. An improved binding arrangement for a manuscript comprising:

an elongated binding strip member having a length substantially equal to the dimension of the manuscript along which the manuscript is to be bound and having a width less than the other dimension of the manuscript to be bound, said binding strip member having four adjacent sections running the length thereof with a first section fastened to one face of the manuscript, a second section connected to said first section and folded back against said first section, a third section connected to said second section and lying opposite an edge of the manuscript, and a fourth section connected to said third section and having one face thereof adhered to the opposite face of the manuscript; and

a cover member for said manuscript adhered to said fourth section of said binding strip member.

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LAWRENCE CHARLES, *Primary Examiner*.