Aug. 30, 1932. V. H. PALM 1,874,796

ENVELOPE

Filed May 26, 1930

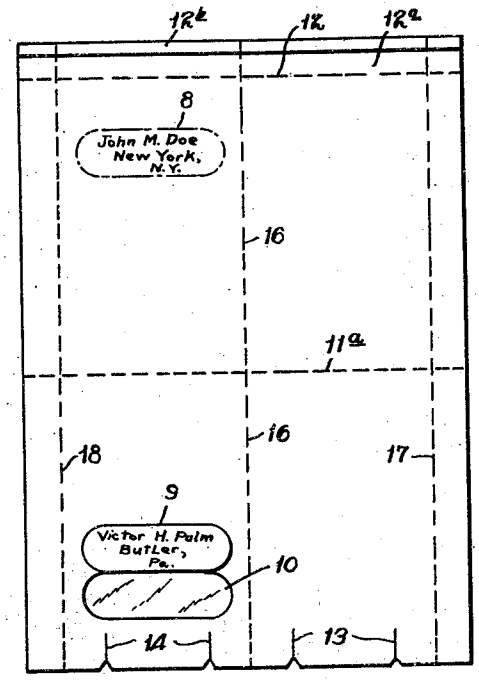


Fig. 1.

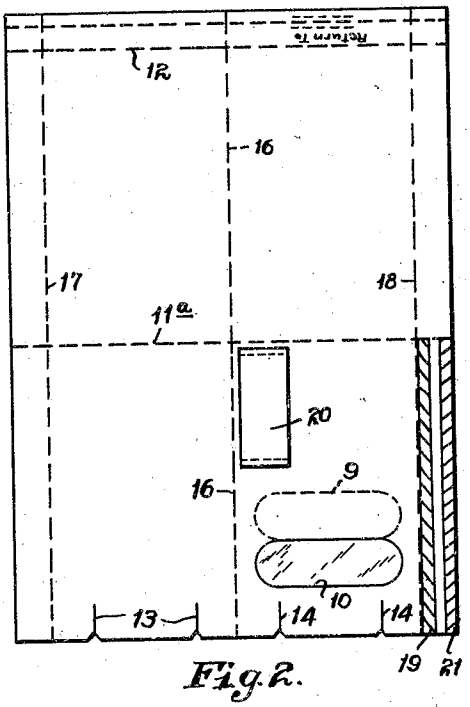


Fig. 2.

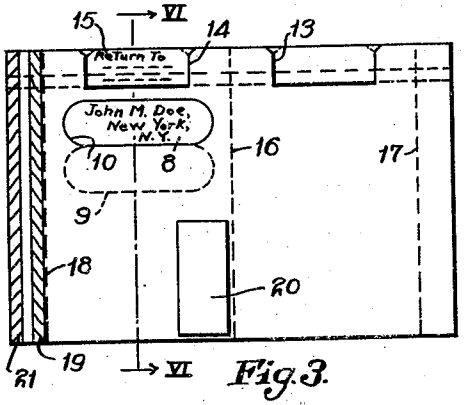


Fig. 3.

Fig. 5.

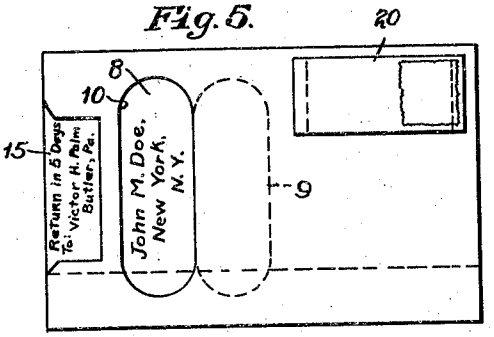




Fig. 6.

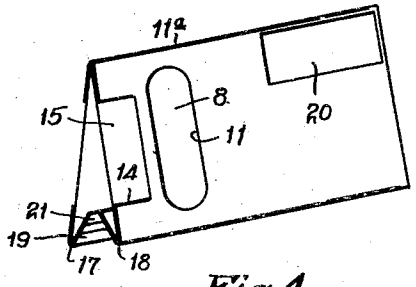


Fig. 4.

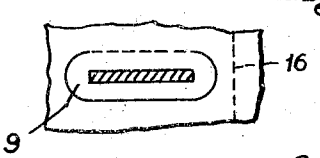


Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

VICTOR H. PALM, OF BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

ENVELOPE

Application filed May 26, 1930. Serial No. 455,567.

My invention relates to envelopes and more particularly to combined letter sheets and envelopes.

One object of my invention is to provide a letter sheet that when folded has the appearance of an envelope and which can be utilized for a reply, without the writing of addresses other than those initially appearing on the sheet.

Another object of my invention is to provide an envelope of the so-called outlook type wherein there is means within the envelope for preventing enclosures from sliding across the window of the envelope, and thereby obscuring an address intended to be visible through the window.

Another object of my invention is to provide a combined letter sheet and envelope which may be employed both as a sending and reply envelope, without the necessity of the recipient thereof folding it along lines other than the original lines, in returning the same to the sender, and wherein the return address may, nevertheless, be made visible through the envelope window.

Still another object of my invention is to provide a combined envelope and letter sheet of generally improved form.

In the enclosed drawing, Figure 1 shows the sheet in open condition with the letter face thereof to the front; Fig. 2 is a view showing the rear side of the sheet of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 shows the sheet partially folded; Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing the sheet at a further stage of folding; Fig. 5 is a view, on an enlarged scale, showing the completely folded sheet; Fig. 6 is a view taken on the line VI—VI of Fig. 3; and Fig. 7 is a fragmentary view of a portion of the sheet of Fig. 1.

Figs. 1 and 2 show the unfolded sheet, Fig. 1 showing the face or letter side of the sheet. This side of the sheet may contain a communication, advertising, and also an order form. The upper half of the side of the sheet shown in Fig. 2 may be similarly utilized. The numeral 8 indicates the addressee, while the numeral 9 is a flap containing the sender's name and address. This flap is shown as cut from the sheet to provide a window 10 therein, which window may be covered by transparent material 11, as shown in Fig. 6. As shown in Fig. 7, the rear side of the flap 9 may be provided with adhesive material for a purpose hereinafter described.

When the sheet has been printed or written, previous to mailing, the flap 9 being bent back as shown in Fig. 1, it is folded completely across itself on the line 11*a*, thus bringing the addressee's name in front of the window 10, as shown in Fig. 3, the sheet then being folded along the line 12, and the edge of such narrow folded portion is caused to enter slits 13 and 14 in the opposite edge of the sheet. Those portions of said opposite edge which lie between the slits 13 and the slits 14 are disposed within the fold 12, so that the rear side of the narrow portion 12*a*, as viewed in Fig. 1, will be exposed as shown in Fig. 3, and the sender's name and address may be printed on said narrow portion as indicated at 15, in Figs. 3, 5 and 6, particularly. The interlocking effect produced by the folded portion 12*a* extending into the slits 13 and 14 serves to prevent gaping of the folded sheet at its upper edge. An order blank or other enclosure may be loosely placed in the sheet and secured behind the flap 9 by the adhesive thereon before folding of the sheet and is prevented by said flap from sliding in front of the window 10 and thereby obscuring the address 8.

The edge portion 12*a* may be folded over as indicated at 12*b* and glued down on itself to reinforce this edge of the sheet, before making the fold along the line 12.

The sheet when folded as in Fig. 3 is then folded backwardly along the line 16 and is also folded back along the lines 17 and 18, giving it the appearance shown in Fig. 4. Adhesive material along the line 19 is then moistened so that the flap formed by the fold 18 may be caused to adhere to the fold of the flap 17. A strip 20 is applied to the rear side of the sheet by adhesive contained on only a portion of the rear side of the strip, as indicated by dotted lines 20*a*, (Fig. 5) so that it can be readily removed by the ad-

dressee. This strip is utilized to receive the postage stamp and the impression of the post office cancellation stamp.

When the addressee receives the letter he may open it by inserting a knife between the fold lines 17 and 18 to effect separation of the adhering portions at 19. He may then write, or otherwise place, his reply in the sheet and refold it along the original lines, except that the flap 9 containing the original sender's address will be folded down over the window 10. In returning the letter sheet, the adhesive along the line 21 is moistened for the purpose of sealing the sheet, and the strip 20 torn off to permit affixing of another postage stamp and to provide a clean surface for the imprint of the postmaster's cancellation stamp.

I claim as my invention:—

1. A combined envelope and letter sheet consisting of a sheet folded along a line laterally offset from a median line of the sheet, a fold adjacent to the edge of the longer portion of the primarily folded sheet and overlapping the opposite edge of the shorter folded portion of the sheet, the sheet being again folded across its width, on a line extending at right angles to the first folded line, and those edges of the sheet parallel to the last-named fold line being inturned and united by a strip of adhesive applied adjacent to one of the second-named edges, the sheet being provided with a second strip of adhesive parallel to but spaced a slight distance from the first-named strip of adhesive.

2. A combined envelope and letter sheet comprising a sheet of paper folded upon itself, means for securing together those edges of the sheet which are brought into proximity to one another by the folding operation, the sheet folded as aforesaid being again folded upon itself, and having the edges thereof which are brought into proximity to one another by the second-named folding operation turned inwardly, and means comprising two spaced lines of adhesive upon one of said infolded portions for securing the infolded portions together.

3. A combined envelope and letter sheet consisting of a sheet having continuous marginal edges and being folded along a line laterally offset from a median line of the sheet, a fold adjacent to the edge of the longer portion of the primarily folded sheet to receive the opposite edge of the shorter folded portion of the sheet, the sheet being again folded across its width, on a line extending at right angles to the first folded line, and those edges of the sheet parallel to the last-named fold line being inturned and united, and a flap cut partially away from one portion of the sheet, the said flap containing an address on its outer side and being foldable back against the face of the sheet to expose an address contained on said sheet, the sheet thus folded forming an envelope having all its edges closed.

4. A letter sheet folded upon itself to bring opposite edges of the sheet into proximity to one another, one of said edges being folded over the other said edge, the folded sheet being again folded upon itself and having the edges thereof which are brought into proximity to one another by the second-named folding operation turned inwardly, the sheet thus folded forming an envelope having all its edges closed, two spaced lines of adhesive upon said infolded portions, and an integral flap formed from a portion of said sheet at the side of the envelope and being foldable back against the face of the sheet to expose an address contained thereon, said envelope being sealed for use by means of one of said lines of adhesive and being adapted to be resealed by the other said line of adhesive.

5. A letter sheet having continuous marginal edges and being folded upon itself to bring opposite edges of the sheet into proximity to one another, one of said edges being folded over the other said edge, the folded sheet being again folded upon itself and having the edges thereof which are brought into proximity to one another by the second-named folding operation turned inwardly, the sheet thus folded forming an envelope having all its edges closed, two spaced lines of adhesive upon said infolded portions, and an integral flap formed from a portion of said sheet at the side of the envelope and being foldable back against the face of the sheet to expose an address contained thereon, said envelope being sealed for use by means of one of said lines of adhesive and being adapted to be resealed by the other said line of adhesive.

In testimony whereof I, the said VICTOR H. PALM, have hereunto set my hand.

VICTOR H. PALM.