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I. MASTERSON ET AL

2,028,341

SERIES ENVELOPE

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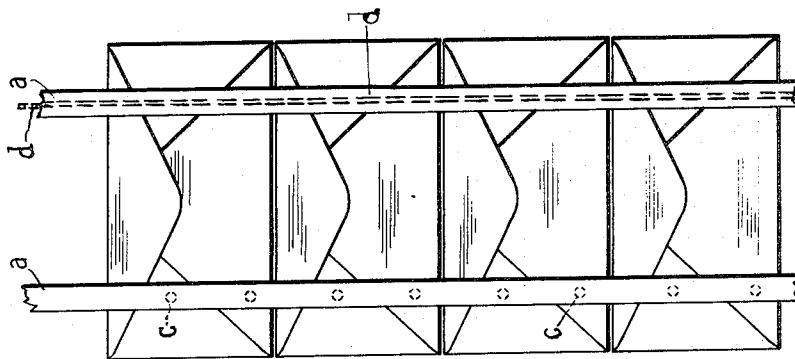


FIG. 3

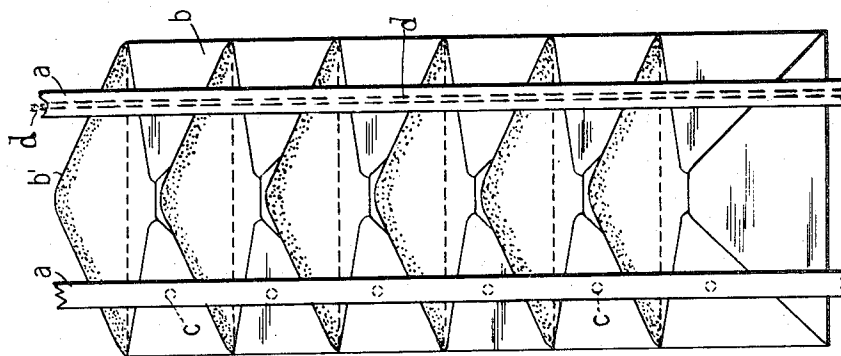


FIG. 2

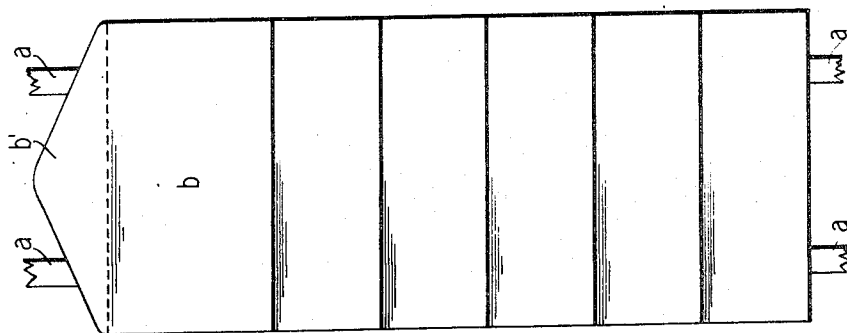


FIG. 1

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SERIES ENVELOPE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 229—69)

In addressing envelopes and the like in a typewriter, a great amount of time is consumed in locating the envelope or other unit with relation to the platen roller, with relation to the point at which the keys strike over the latter. We have discovered that the addressing of envelopes can be speeded up materially, in fact an operator's output can be substantially doubled by providing envelopes in connected series so that the removal of one envelope from the machine will automatically locate the succeeding one in position with such parts.

To attain this result we have devised a new article of manufacture consisting of a series of standard, folded envelopes arranged in alined, connected series with the adjacent edges of such envelopes overlapping or arranged in substantial abutment with each other and connected together. It is preferable that two connections between the individual envelopes be made so that the maximum assurance will be given that alinement will be maintained. It is also desirable that such connections between the individual envelopes be easily rupturable or severable, so as to permit disconnection of the units in such series quickly and with the minimum possibility for tearing the latter.

This application is intended as a continuation in part of our application for patent entitled Envelope and means of addressing the same, Serial No. 544,084, filed June 13, 1931, and particularly with regard to the subject-matter shown in Fig. 3 of the drawing forming a part of said application.

The details of our invention are hereinafter described with reference to the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is an elevation of a series of envelopes arranged in overlapping alinement and secured together by continuous strips of material arranged upon the rear face thereof;

Fig. 2 is an elevation of the rear face of said envelopes showing said continuous strips of material, the flap portion of said envelopes being shown extended and the continuous strips of material overlying and being secured to the gummed portion of said flap; and

Fig. 3 is an elevation of the rear face of a series of envelopes in which the flaps are arranged in closed or sealing position and with the continuous strips overlying the outer or ungummed face of said flaps.

In the modification shown in Figs. 1 and 2, continuous strips of material *a* overlie the rear faces of the envelopes *b* forming a series. The

gummed flaps *b'* of said envelopes are extended and said strips of material overlie and are secured to said gummed flaps *b'*. Said strips of material preferably are made of paper, so as to be easily torn and may either be gummed so that they can be secured to the envelopes across the rear faces of said envelopes, or may be otherwise treated or coated to secure this result. That is, we have discovered that waxed paper, for example, constitutes an excellent material for securing the envelopes together in alined series.

In order to minimize the area of said strips secured to the envelope, we secure said strips at spaced points such as by small circular spot connections *c*, or by a narrow line connecting section *d*. The spot connections can be made by providing spaced gummed portions of appropriate size upon the connecting face of said strips and moistening said spot connections so that they will adhere to the envelopes at said points. If waxed or otherwise treated paper is used, a heated roller with a knobbed periphery can be provided which heated roller can be drawn lengthwise of said strips. Where the knobbed portions of said heated roller strike the strip *a*, adhesion will result, and thus the strips are secured at spaced points to the envelopes. The knobs on the periphery of said roller are proportioned and located so that one of said spot connections will be formed upon the strip of material where said strips overlie each of the envelopes. This insures the securing of all of said envelopes to a strip of material.

As is noted in the figures, there are preferably two of said strips of material *a* and these are spaced more or less toward the ends of the envelopes so as to insure the maintenance of alinement of said envelopes in said series. The narrow connections *d* are formed by providing either a very narrow gummed section on the strip of material, or by pressing a heated roller with a more or less sharp edge over said strips of material *a* and thus connecting said strips to the envelopes along very narrow areas on the faces of said envelopes. It is not desirable that the strips of material, which are relatively broad to secure strength, should be secured to the faces of the envelopes across the entire width of said strips of material. This is for the reason that when said strips are removed from the envelopes it is desirable that minimum evidence be left upon said envelopes that they were secured to each other in connected series. Thus, if said envelopes are secured only to the gummed flaps, said gummed flaps are pasted down and thus cover any portions

of the strips of material which cannot easily be removed from said gummed flaps. If said envelopes are secured together by spot or narrow connections, such as is indicated, usually said strips of material can be removed without marring the envelope. If a trace of discoloration remains, it is so small that it does not attract attention.

In Fig. 3 the envelopes are arranged with their edges in substantial abutment and the strips of material *a* overlie the folded flaps. In said modification shown in Fig. 3, the gummed portion of the flaps are folded against the body thereof. The envelopes in the series are secured to said strips either by said spot connections, or by said narrow connecting sections *d*, shown on the two strips of material in said Fig. 3.

We claim:

1. A series of successive envelopes arranged in alinement, each of said envelopes comprising overlapping intumed folds, one fold being unsecured and gummed and constituting the flap of said envelope, said envelopes in said series being joined to each other by a continuous strip of material extending across said envelopes and removably secured to the gummed flap thereof.

2. A series of successive envelopes arranged in alinement, the envelopes in said series being joined to each other by a continuous strip of material having an adhesive substance located between said strip and said envelopes, said strip extending across one face of each of said envelopes and being lightly secured by adhesion to each envelope of said series thereby adapted to be easily removed therefrom.

3. A series of successive envelopes arranged in alinement, the envelopes in said series being joined to each other by two spaced continuous strips of material having an adhesive substance

located between said strips and said envelopes, said strips extending across one face of each of said envelopes and being lightly secured by adhesion to each envelope of said series thereby adapted to be easily removed therefrom.

4. A series of successive envelopes arranged in alinement, the envelopes in said series being joined to each other by a continuous strip of easily rupturable material having an adhesive substance located between said strip and said envelopes, said strip extending across one face of each of said envelopes and being lightly secured by adhesion to each envelope of said series thereby adapted to be easily removed therefrom.

5. A series of successive envelopes arranged in alinement, the envelopes in said series being joined to each other by a continuous strip of material having an adhesive substance located between said strip and said envelopes, said strip extending across one face of each of said envelopes and being lightly secured by adhesion to each envelope of said series thereby adapted to be easily removed therefrom, the adhesion between a strip and each envelope to which it is secured occupying only a very small proportion of the area of the strip surface facing the envelope.

6. A series of successive envelopes arranged in alinement, the envelopes in said series being joined to each other by a continuous strip of material, said strip extending across one face of each of said envelopes and being lightly secured by adhesion to each envelope of said series thereby adapted to be easily removed therefrom, said strip provided with a coating upon that surface facing the envelopes, said coating constituting the adhesive material for joining the strip with the envelopes.

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