No. 730,590. PATENTED JUNE 9, 1903.

J. B. WISNER.

DEVICE FOR MOISTENING AND SEALING ENVELOPS.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 7, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig 1.

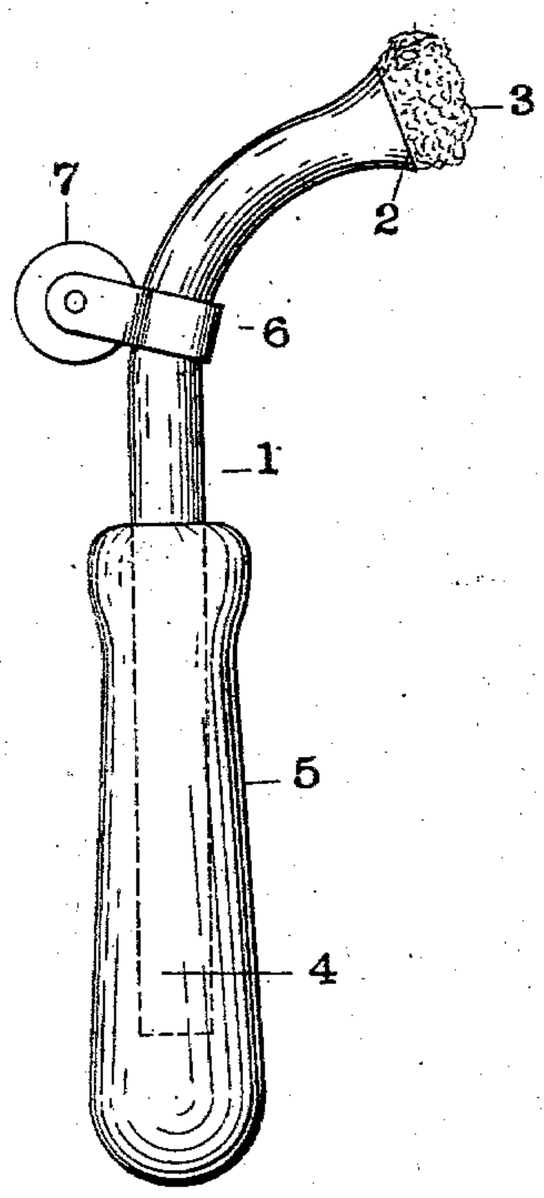


Fig 2.

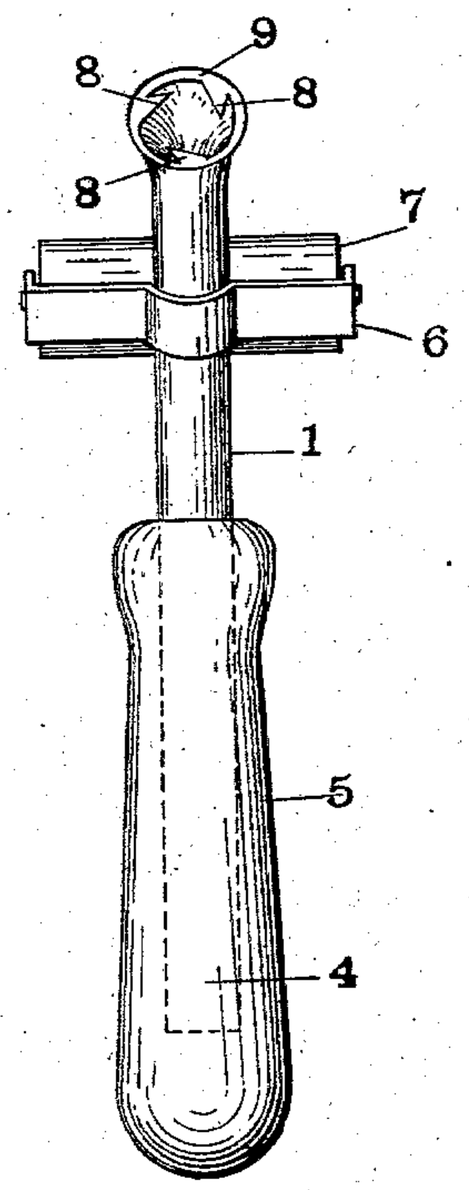
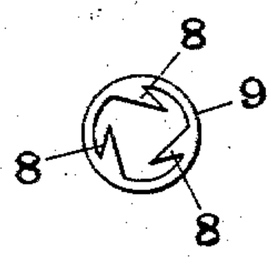


Fig 3.



Witnesses
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No. 730,590. Patented June 9, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSIAH B. WISNER, OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY.

DEVICE FOR MOISTENING AND SEALING ENVELOPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 730,590, dated June 9, 1903.

Application filed October 7, 1902. Serial No. 126,284. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSIAH B. WISNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Camden, in the county of Camden and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Device for Moistening and Sealing Envelops, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in means for moistening and sealing envelops; and the object of my invention is to provide a simple and convenient device for first moistening the gum on the envelop and then pressing the gummed lip against the body of the envelop.

My device also provides convenient means for containing the moistening liquid, so that the same will not leak when the device is not in use.

The invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement, and combination of the various elements, as herein fully set forth.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of my device. Fig. 2 is a top view of same. Fig. 3 is a detail of the element for securing the sponge or other suitable moistening device.

The tube 1 is hollow and curved or bent in its longitudinal extension, as clearly shown in Fig. 1, and opened and preferably flaring at one end and closed at the other end. In the flaring open end is seated the element or ring 9, provided with the tangential pins 8. Upon the other end is rigidly secured a handle 5 for convenient manipulation of the device. Upon the convex side of the bend of the tube 1, near the open end, is secured the yoke 6, carrying the roller 7, the axis of the roller being transverse the longitudinal direction of the tube. The roller is of sufficient length to prevent lateral tipping, so that when the device is placed upon the table in the position in which the roller and handle rest thereon the open end 2 is the most elevated part of the device. The tube is filled with water or other suitable moistener, and then a sponge 3 or other mass of suitable absorbent but insoluble material is inserted in the open end of the tube 4 by twisting it in the direction of the pins 8 until it has entered sufficiently into the tube, and then by a reverse turn of said sponge or other mass it becomes securely engaged on said pins 8 and will be firmly held thereby in the open flaring end 2 of said tube.

When the device is in the position resting upon the table, as above described, the liquid will not be in contact with the sponge and will remain indefinitely in the tube without any tendency to leak therefrom. When, however, it is held in the reverse position, with the sponge downward against the gummed lip of the envelop or wrapper, the moisture will be communicated through the sponge to said gum, and then by reversing the position of the device the roller may be run over the flap or lip of the envelop or wrapper to cause the necessary pressure contact in the final act of sealing.

A distinct advantage of this device is that when the roller is being operated and also when the device is at rest upon the table the moisture is contained in the lower part of the tube and away from the sponge and without danger of spilling or leaking and also the device can always be laid aside with the sponge held clear from any other article to which it might impart undesirable moisture. It should also be noted that the weight of the handle 5 will always be sufficient to counterbalance positively all the weight of the tubing and sponge on the opposite side of the axis of the roller.

It is believed that the structure above described provides means for moistening and sealing simple in construction, consisting of few parts, and therefore cheap to make, durable and efficient, and that for these reasons it is a distinct improvement over any similar device heretofore known.

What I claim is—

1. In a device for moistening and sealing envelops, the combination of a tube for holding a moistening liquid, curved or bent in its longitudinal extension, open at one end and closed at the other end, a roller-yoke embracing the tube on the concave side of its bend and a roller supported in said yoke on the convex side of the bend, having its axis transverse the longitudinal extension of the tube and a mass of absorbent but insoluble material secured in the open end of the tube.

2. In a device for moistening and sealing envelops, the combination of a tube for holding a moistening liquid, curved or bent in its

longitudinal extension, open and flaring at one end and closed at the other end, a roller-yoke embracing the tube on the concave side of its bend and a roller supported in said yoke on the convex side of the bend, having its axis transverse the longitudinal extension of the tube and a mass of absorbent but insoluble material secured in the open end of the tube.

3. In a device for moistening and sealing envelops, the combination of a tube for holding a moistening liquid, curved or bent in its longitudinal extension, open at one end and closed at the other end, a roller-yoke embracing the tube on the concave side of its bend and a roller supported in said yoke on the convex side of the bend, having its axis transverse the longitudinal extension of the tube, a mass of absorbent but insoluble material located in the open end of the tube and a securing-pin connected with said open end for securing the absorbent mass.

4. In a device for moistening and sealing envelops, the combination of a tube for holding a moistening liquid, curved or bent in its longitudinal extension, open at one end and closed at the other end, a roller mounted upon the tube on the convex side of its bend, having its axis transverse the longitudinal extension of the tube, a mass of absorbent but insoluble material located in the open end of the tube, and a ring secured in said open end provided with interiorly-disposed tangential pins, each having the same circumferential direction.

5. In a device for moistening and sealing envelops, the combination of a tube for holding a moistening liquid, curved or bent in its longitudinal extension, open at one end and closed at the other end, a roller-yoke embracing the tube on the concave side of its bend and a roller supported in said yoke on the convex side of the bend, having its axis transverse the longitudinal extension of the tube and a mass of absorbent but insoluble material secured in the open end of the tube, the location of the roller being such that the weight of the tube on the side of the roller toward the closed end will counterbalance the weight of the tube on the other side of the roller.

6. In a device for moistening and sealing envelops, the combination of a tube for holding a moistening liquid, curved or bent in its longitudinal extension, open at one end and closed at the other end, a roller-yoke embracing the tube on the concave side of its bend and a roller supported in said yoke on the convex side of the bend, having its axis transverse the longitudinal extension of the tube, a mass of absorbent but insoluble materials secured in the open end of the tube and a counterbalancing-handle secured to the closed end of the tube, substantially as described.

7. In a moistening and sealing device, the combination of a tube for holding a moistening liquid curved or bent, in its longitudinal extension, open at one end and closed at the other end, provided at its open end with interiorly-disposed tangential pins, each having the same circumferential direction, a roller mounted upon the tube on the convex side of its bend having its axis transverse the longitudinal extension of the tube, and a mass of absorbent but insoluble material secured in the open end of the tube.

8. In a moistening and sealing device the combination of the tube 1, bent midway its longitudinal extension, open at one end and closed at the other, the absorbent 3 detachably secured in the open end of tube 1, the handle 5 surmounting the closed end of tube 1, the yoke 6 surrounding the tube approximate its bent portion, and the roller 7 secured in said yoke on the convex side of the bend of the tube 1, and having its axis transverse the longitudinal extension of the tube, substantially as described.

JOSIAH B. WISNER.

Witnesses:
MAE HOFMANN,
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