

No. 874,144.

PATENTED DEC. 17, 1907.

H. L. WHITE & F. J. ROGERS.
ENVELOP.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 5, 1906.

Fig. 1.

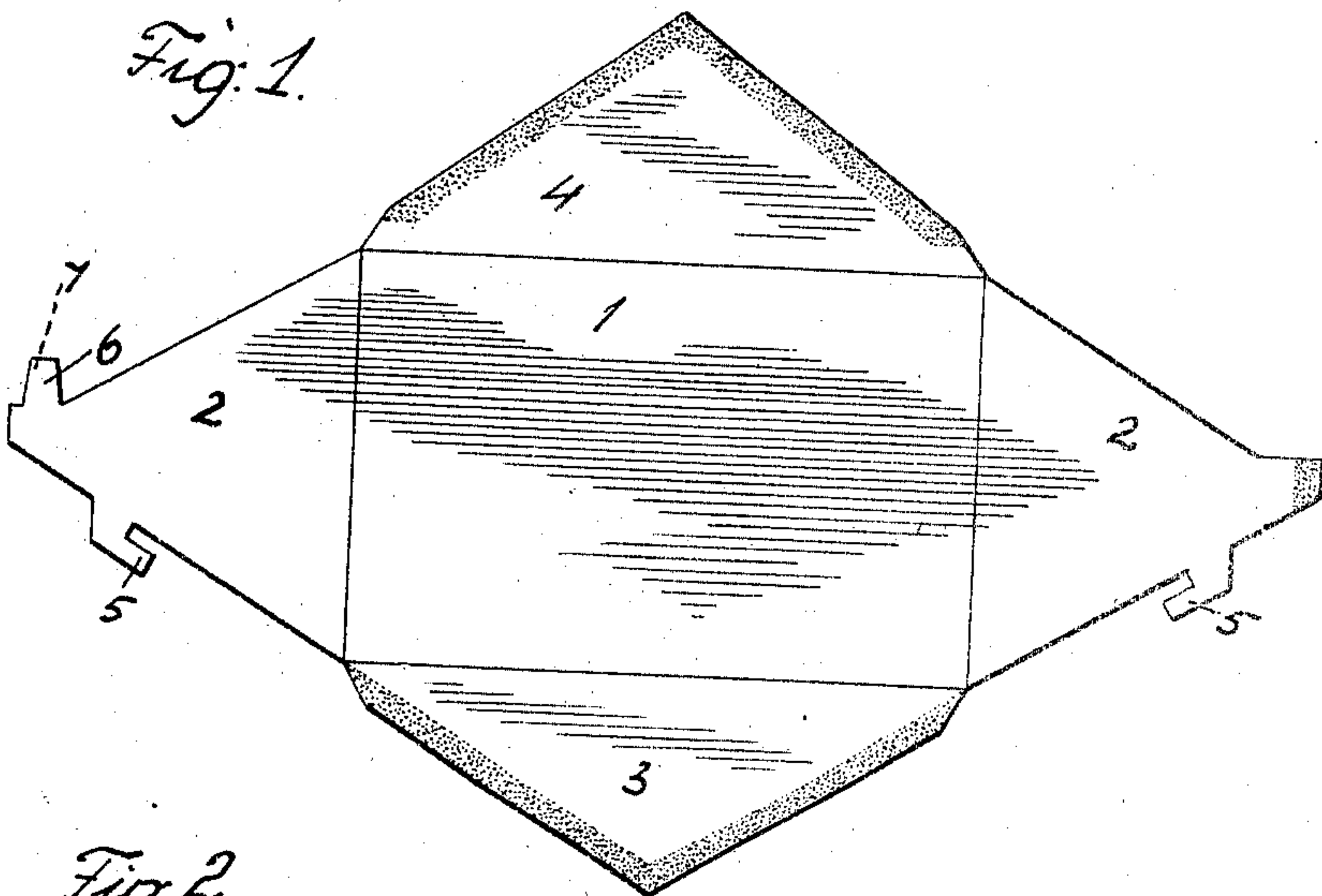


Fig. 2.

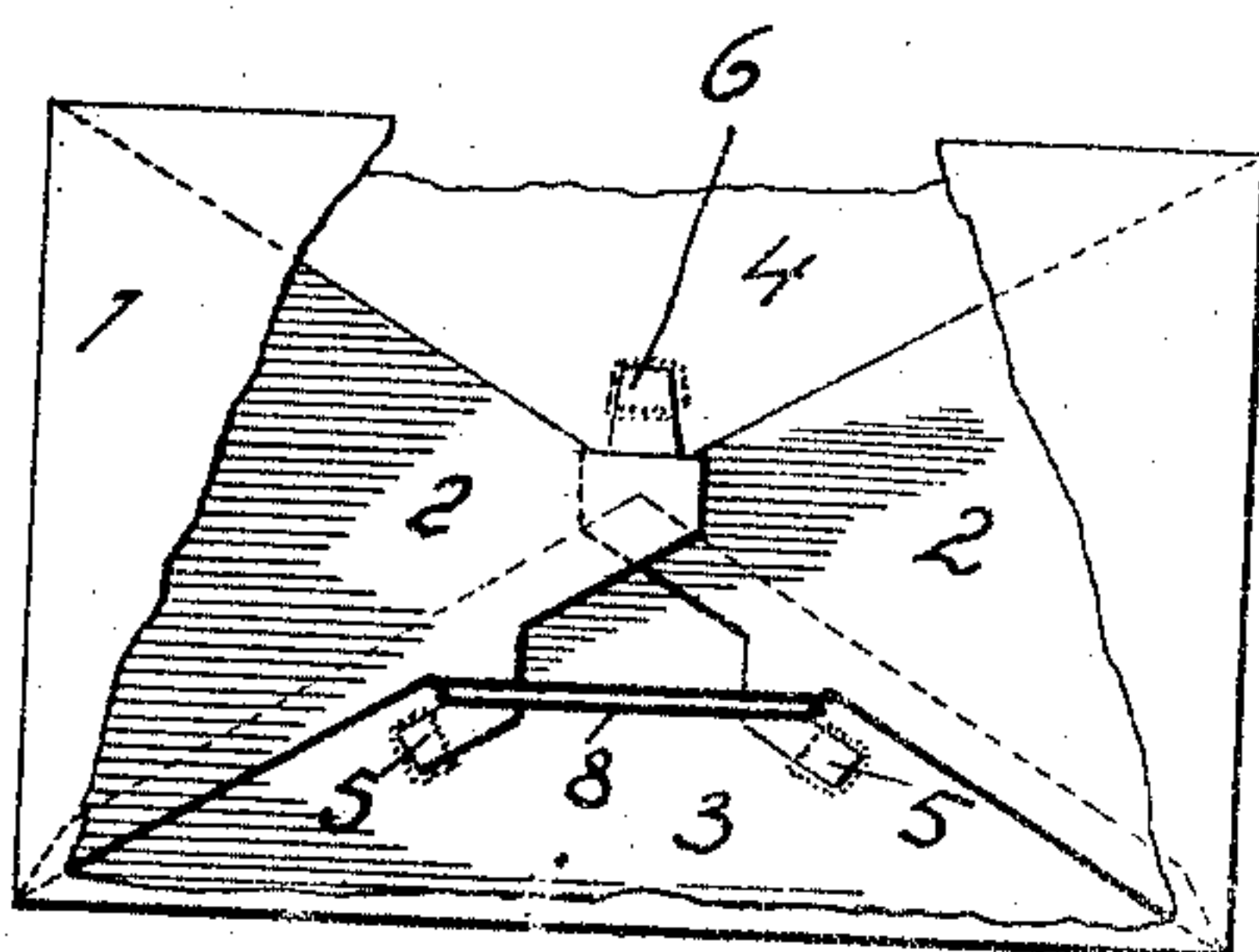
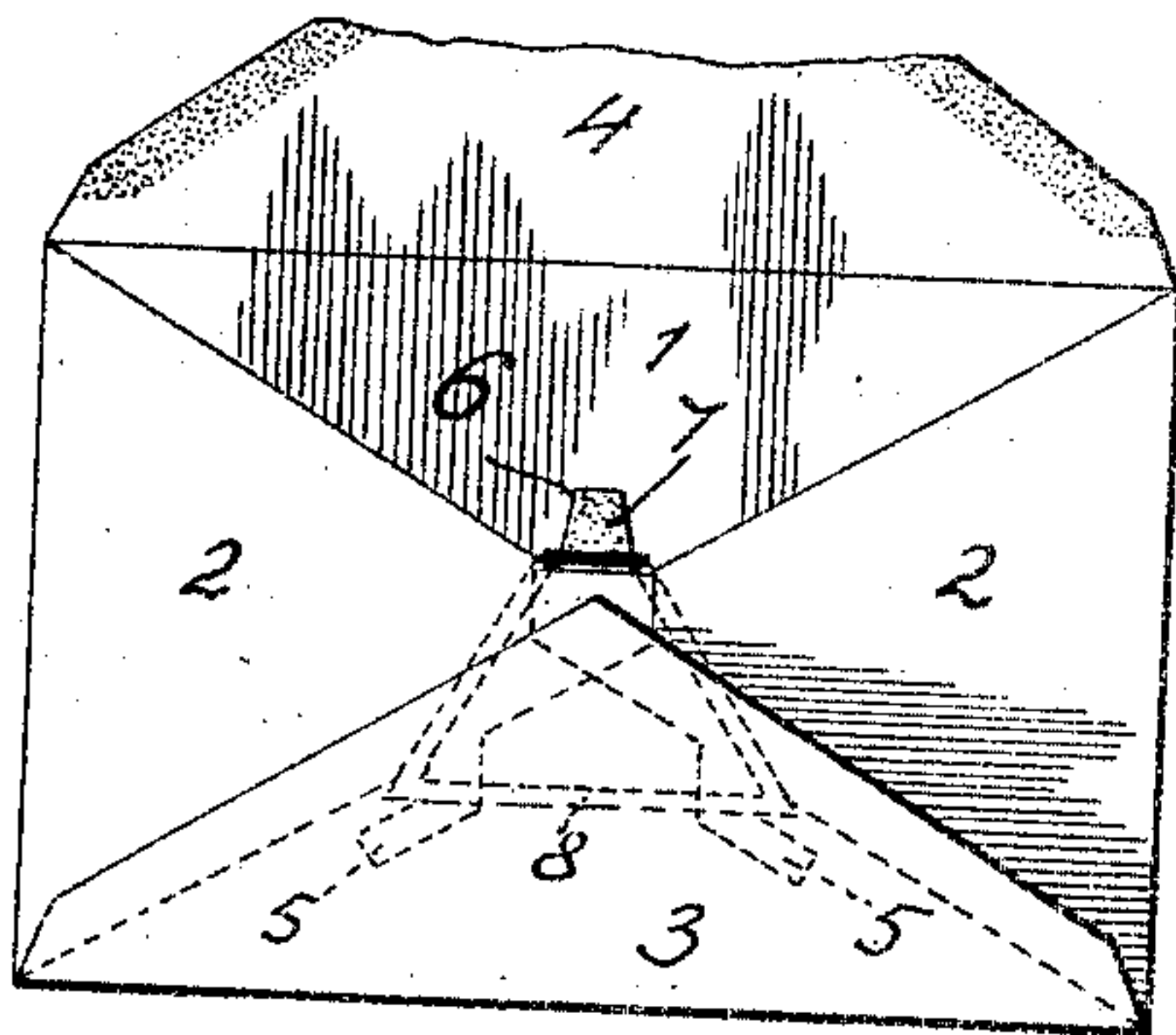


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY L. WHITE AND FRANCIS J. ROGERS, OF WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA.

ENVELOP.

No. 874,144.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 17, 1907.

Application filed June 5, 1906. Serial No. 320,244.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HARRY L. WHITE and FRANCIS J. ROGERS, citizens of the United States of America, residing at Wheeling, in the county of Ohio and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

10 This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in envelops, and the invention has for its object the provision of novel means in connection with an envelop for detecting whether the same has been tampered with or opened, before the envelop is opened by the person for whom it is intended, or addressed.

Another object of this invention is to provide a simple and inexpensive envelop particularly adapted for transmitting valuable papers and important letters through the mails as first class matter.

25 To this end, we have devised an envelop having an auxiliary sealing tongue, which together with other tongues, are adapted to maintain an elastic band in a triangular form within the envelop, when the same is sealed, but should the envelop be opened or tampered with, the elastic band will assume a position which can be readily determined before the envelop is opened.

30 The construction of our improved envelop, will be hereinafter more fully described in detail and then specifically pointed out in the claims, and referring to the drawing accompanying this specification like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, in which:—

40 Figure 1 is a developed view of our improved envelop, Fig. 2 is an elevation of the same, partly broken away, illustrating the interior appearance of the envelop when unsealed, Fig. 3 is an elevation of the back of the envelop illustrating the envelop unsealed.

45 To put our invention into practice, we construct the envelop of a body portion 1 having end flaps 2, a bottom flap 3, and a sealing flap 4. These flaps are constructed similar to the ordinary flaps of an envelop with the exception that the end flaps 2 are provided with angularly disposed tongues 5, while one of said flaps is provided with a vertically disposed tongue 6. This tongue is provided with adhesive material 7. When the end flaps 2 are folded upon the body portion 1 of the envelop and held in their folded position

by the bottom flap 3, the vertically disposed tongue 6 lies centrally of the envelop to engage the sealing flap 4, when the same is folded upon the body portion of the envelop. 60

In connection with our improved envelop, we use a conventional form of elastic band 8 which is placed upon the tongues 5, 5, as illustrated in Fig. 2 of the drawings. When the envelop is to be closed by the sealing flap 4, one of the strands of the elastic band 8 is elevated and hooked over the end of the vertically disposed tongues 6, thus holding the elastic band 8 in a triangular form (see Fig. 3). The vertically disposed tongue 7 is then moistened, and as the sealing flap 4 is being sealed, said flap will adhere to the tongue 6 and become part thereof. This tongue is of sufficient strength to maintain the sealing flap 4 in a closed position irrespective of whether the edges of said sealing flap are sealed. 75

Should the envelop be tampered with, or surreptitiously opened, the same can be detected by the position of the elastic band 8 within the envelop. When the sealing flap 4 is tampered with and the tongue 6 disengaged from the sealing flap 4, the elastic band 8 immediately assumes its normal position, and as the band can be readily felt from the exterior of the envelop, the position of said band will readily determine whether the envelop has been tampered with. The triangular form of the band indicates that the envelop is in the condition in which it was originally mailed, while the straight position of the band illustrated in Fig. 2 designates that the envelop has been tampered with. 85

The tongues 5 can also be adhesively secured to the envelop as illustrated in Fig. 2 of the drawing. 95

We do not care to confine ourselves to the size or character of envelops constructed according to our invention and such changes as are permissible by the appended claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. 100

What we claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

105 An envelop comprising a body portion, end flaps, a bottom flap, a sealing top flap, all of said flaps adapted to fold upon said body portion, downward angularly disposed tongues carried by said end flaps and extending with their inner edges parallel to the adjacent oblique edges of said carrying flaps, an upward vertically disposed gummed tongue 110

carried by one of said end flaps, an elastic band to engage over said tongues in a triangular form within said envelop to connect said flaps together when said vertically disposed tongue is secured to said sealing flap,
5 said band being freely slidable on each tongue.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

HARRY L. WHITE.
FRANCIS J. ROGERS.

Witnesses:

MORRIS NEWMAN,
SARAH HEINLEIN.