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J. KUHN.

ENVELOP.

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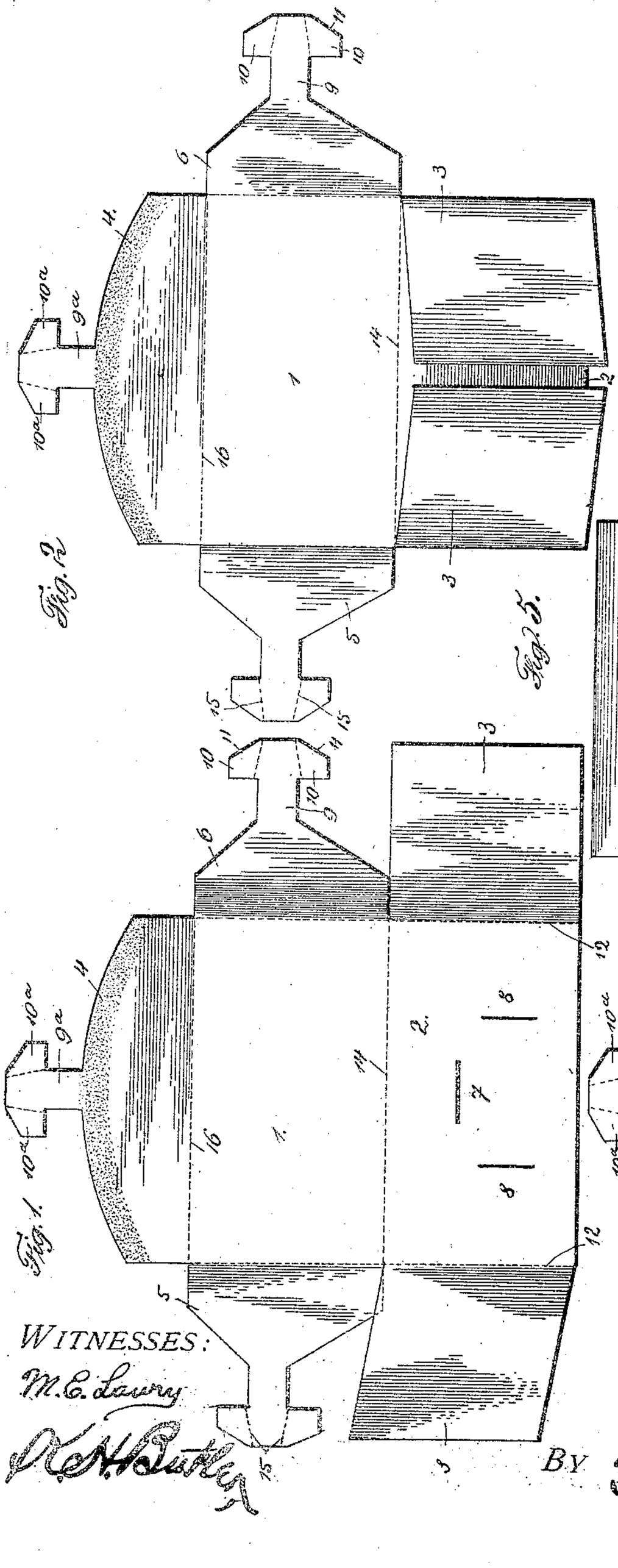

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ENVELOP.

No. 880,223. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 25, 1908.

Application filed March 30, 1906. Serial No. 308,958.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB KUHN, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Envelops, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in envelops, and the invention has for its primary object to provide a novel form of envelop that cannot be opened without detection.

Another object of this invention is to provide an envelop wherein the use of adhesive material such as mucilage is entirely dispensed with, and positive and reliable means employed for retaining the envelop in a closed position.

A further object of this invention is to provide an envelop particularly adapted for transmitting valuable articles through the mails, and in this connection, I desire it to be understood that the principle of my improved envelop may be readily embodied in folders, circulars, wrappers and similar articles.

With the above and other objects in view, the nature of which will more readily appear as the invention is better understood, said invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

Referring to the drawing accompanying this application, in which like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, Figure 1 is a view of my improved envelop blank. Fig. 2 a similar view, illustrating the blank as partially folded, Fig. 3 is a similar view illustrating the blank as further folded, Fig. 4 a plan of the envelop with its closing or sealing flap in an open position, Fig. 5 a similar view of the envelop in a closed position, and, Fig. 6, a detail view of one of the tongues of the envelop, folded over to permit its ready insertion in this complemental slit.

To put my invention into practice, I form my improved envelop with a body portion 1, a bottom flap 2, end flaps 3—3, and sealing flaps 4, 5, and 6. The bottom flap 2 is provided with three slits or slots 7 and 8—8, the slit or slot 7, being arranged at right angles to the slits or slots 8—8, and approximately intermediate said slits or slots. The sealing flaps, 4, 5, and 6, are provided with tongues 9, said tongues being provided with lips or tabs 10—10, which taper or converge, as at 11—11 towards the ends of the tongues.

In practice the end flaps 3—3 are adapted to fold inwardly upon the dotted lines 12—12, and rest upon the bottom flap 2, after which said flap, together with the in-folded flaps 3—3, are bent upwardly upon the dotted line 14, thereby causing the bottom flap to co-incide in position with the body portion 1 of the envelop. The lips or tabs 10—10 of the tongues 9, of the flaps 5 and 6, are then bent upwardly upon the dotted lines 15—15, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 6, to form a tapering end upon the tongues 9 of said flaps. The tongues of the flaps 5 and 6 are now inserted in the slits or slots 8—8, of the bottom flap 2, and a suitable instrument such as a pin or knife blade may be used for moving the lips or tabs 10—10 outwardly to their normal position, as illustrated in dotted lines in Fig. 4 of the drawings. The envelop is now in condition to receive the article to be placed therein for transmission. Assuming that the envelop is to be closed, I provide the flap 4 with a tongue 9^a and lips or tabs 10^a, 10^a, similar to the flaps 5 and 6. The lips or tabs 10^a, 10^a, are folded inwardly, and the sealing flap 4, bent downwardly upon the line 16, and the tongue 9^a inserted in the slot or slit 7, after which the lips or tabs 10^a 10^a are returned to their normal position to lock the tongue 9^a in and beneath the bottom flap 2.

As shown, the tongues 10 and the slits 8 are so positioned with respect to the tongue 10^a and slit 7, that when the top flap 4 has been placed in position, said flap will extend over and conceal the slits 8 wiyh the tongues inserted therein. Hence the only exposed sealing portion is the slit 7 through which the tongue 10^a has been passed, as shown in Fig. 5. Therefore, when the tongue 10^a has been secured in position by inserting into the slit 8 and the edges turned out, or an additional seal placed thereon, the envelop has the appearance of being an ordinary adhesive-closed envelop with the exception of the outer or top fold, while it actually is entirely free from adhesive material. Furthermore, owing to the fact that the end flaps 3 of the bottom flap, when said flaps are in their folded positions, lie within the body portion of the folded envelop adjacent to the inner

surface of the bottom flap, a protective element for the tongues of the side and top flaps is formed by means of which liability of tearing or disarranging the tongues of the side flaps when the inclosure is being placed in or taken from the envelop, is prevented, in addition to which the fact that said end flaps lie close to the inner surface of the bottom flap insures that the tongues, when placed within the slits, will have their laterally projecting portions retained in their flat positions.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new is:—

1. A foldable envelop having its side flaps and top flap each provided with a securing tongue, and having its bottom flap provided with slits to receive the tongues, the tongues and slits for the side flaps being positioned relatively to the tongue and slit of the top flap in a manner whereby the folding of the top flap to its proper folded position will carry said flap over the slits of the side flaps to conceal the tongues and their slits of said side flaps, the bottom flap having end flaps foldable to provide an inner protecting element for the tongues of the side and top flaps when said tongues are positioned within their respective slits.

2. A foldable envelop having a body-portion provided with flaps at its top, bottom and opposing sides, the top and sides each having an integral tongue, the bottom flap having two parallel slits and a slit spaced therefrom and extending at right angles therewith, the parallel slits being located adjacent the free edge of said flap, said bottom, side and top flaps being foldable upon the body portion with the bottom flap adjacent the body-portion, the side-flap tongues entering said parallel slits, the top flap being of a size to be folded over the slits for the side-flap tongues to conceal said tongues and their slits, the top-flap tongue being placed within the single slit, the bottom flap having end flaps foldable to provide an inner protecting element for the tongues of the side and top flaps when said tongues are positioned within their respective slits.

3. A foldable envelop having a body-portion provided with flaps at its top, bottom and opposing sides, the top and sides each having an integral tongue, the bottom flap having side flaps and also having its main portion provided with two parallel slits and a slit spaced therefrom and extending at right angles therewith, the parallel slits being located adjacent the free edge of said flap, the side flaps of the bottom flap being foldable thereon, and the bottom, with its folded side flaps, the side flaps and the top flap being foldable upon the body portion, the side-flap tongues entering said parallel slits, the top flap being of a size to be folded over the slits for the side-flap tongues to conceal said top-flap tongues and their slits, the tongue being placed within the single slit, the end flaps of the bottom flaps being foldable to provide an inner protecting element for the tongues of the side and top flaps when said tongues are positioned within their respective slits.

4. A blank for foldable envelops formed with a body-portion, top, bottom and side flaps on the edges of the body-portion, said side and top flaps each having a projecting tongue, the side flaps and tongues being of a combined length less than the length of the body-portion, parallel slits extending crosswise of the bottom flap, said bottom flap also having a slit extending lengthwise thereof and spaced from said parallel slits and located between said slits and the line of folding of the bottom flap, and end flaps formed on the ends of the bottom flap, the end flaps of the bottom flap, during the folding operation of the envelop, being foldable to provide an inner protecting element for the tongue of the side and top flaps when said tongues are positioned within their respective slits.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JACOB KUHN.

Witnesses:
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E. E. POTTER.