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ENVELOP.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ENVELOP.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Neil Joseph Macdonald, a subject of the King of Great Britain, and a resident of Irish Cove, Richmond county, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada, have invented a new and Improved Envelop, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to certain improvements in envelops, and more particularly to a special flap construction, whereby after the envelop is sealed, it is very difficult, if not impossible, to gain access thereto without leaving evidence of the fact that the

15 envelop has been tampered with.

In my improved construction, I provide one flap with a very narrow neck connecting the body of the flap with the body of the envelop, and seal portions of other flaps to the inner surface of the body of the first-mentioned flap, so that should anyone attempt to steam the envelop or in any way force it open, the narrow neck will be torn. This will, of course, indicate that the envelop has been opened, or at least an attempt has been made to open it.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the

figures, and in which—

Figure 1 is an inside plan view of an envelop constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing the end flaps folded into position; Fig. 3 is a rear view of the envelop ready for the insertion of the contents; Fig. 4 is a rear view of the envelop closed and sealed, one of the end flaps being shown in dotted lines in open position; and Fig. 5 is a plan view of a blank showing a slightly modified form.

In the specific form of envelop illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, I employ a body portion 10, constituting the face of the envelop and of any suitable size, although preferably rectangular in shape. This body portion carries four flaps 11, 12, 13 and 14 at the four edges thereof. Two of these flaps, 11 and 13, will hereinafter be referred to as the "end flaps", and the other two flaps, 12 and 14, will be referred to as the "side flaps", although it is evident that the flaps 11 and 13 might be at the sides and the flaps 12 and 14 at the ends. The flap 11 is of sub-

stantially the same size and form as the body

portion 10 of the envelop and is adapted to be folded over on to the body as the first step in the formation of the envelop. The opposite end flap 13 is of substantially the width 60 of the body portion, but it is slightly shorter than the envelop at one edge, and at the opposite edge is only of approximately onehalf the length of the envelop. The end of the flap is cut off at an angle dependent upon 65 the angle of the sides of the flap 12. As illustrated, the end of the flap is at an angle of about forty-five degrees to the longest edge. The end portion of the flap 13 may be gummed upon the side thereof which 70 comes away from the body when the flap is folded into position. This strip of gumming or adhesive 15 is illustrated in Fig. 2. The side flap 12 is provided with a base portion 16, extending along the edge of the body 10 75 of the envelop and this base portion is separated from a dovetailed outer end portion 17 of the flap by a narrow neck 18. The edges of the flap 12 are cut at an angle corresponding to the angularity of the end of 80 the flap 13, and the flap 12 is of such size that when folded over on to the flap 13, as illustrated in Fig. 4, one edge of the flap 14 will come parallel with and closely adjacent to the diagonal end of the flap 13. The flap 85 14 is of approximately the length of the body and it is provided with two diagonal scored lines 19 and 20 extending from the corners of the body portion 10 outwardly at angles corresponding to the angles of the 90 sides of the flap 12. The triangular portions 21 and 22 outside of these scored lines, are gummed on either or both sides, as may be desired.

In forming the envelop, the three flaps 11, 95 12 and 13 are folded to the position shown in Fig. 3, and the flap 12 is secured to the flap 13 by the gum 15. The inclosures are inserted at the edge of the envelop having the flap 14, and to seal the envelop, the said flap 100 is folded over on to the flap 12 and the triangular corner portion 21 inserted beneath the edge of the outer dovetail shaped end of the flap 12. The triangular corner portion 21 is folded over the edge of both the 105 flap 12 and the flap 13, and is inserted between the latter and the flap 11. By having this triangular corner portion gummed upon both sides, it not only retains itself in position, but prevents the flap 11 from being 110 pulled out. The triangular corner portion 22 is folded over the other edge of the flap

12 and is inserted between the latter and the flap 13. If any attempt is made to raise the flap 13, or in any other way open the envelop, the narrow neck 18 will be broken and 5 this will constitute evidence that the envelop has been tampered with. Instead of closing the flap 13 last, I may seal the flaps 12, 13 and 14 together and insert the flap 11 and seal it in place after the contents have been 10 inserted. In Fig. 4 I have shown a rear view of an envelop in closed and sealed position, but have shown in dotted lines, the flap 11 extending outwardly for the insertion of

the inclosures as above indicated.

In Fig. 5, I have illustrated a blank similar in all respects to the blank shown in Fig. 1, except that it has a cut or slit 23 in the flap 11a, which will come to the position indicated in dotted lines on the body, when the 20 flap is folded over. This cut or slit comes parallel to the edge of the flap 12 and parallel to the score lines 19, so that the triangular corner portion 21 may be folded not only around the edges of the flaps 12 and 13, 25 but may be inserted through the slit and be gummed to the inner surface of the flap 11a.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters

Patent:

1. An envelop, comprising a body and two opposed pairs of flaps, one of the flaps of one pair having a dove-tailed or enlarged outer end portion and a narrow neck portion, and the opposite flap of said pair be-35 ing substantially rectangular in form and superposed upon the first-mentioned flap and having its outer corners foldable beneath said enlarged or dove-tailed end and upon opposite sides of said neck.

40 2. An envelop, having a body and two pairs of opposed flaps, one of said flaps having an enlarged substantially triangular - outer end portion separated from the remainder of the flap by a narrow neck, and

45 the opposed flap of said pair being substantially rectangular and superposed upon said first-mentioned flap and having its outer free

corners provided with adhesive material and foldable along diagonal lines coincident with the edges of said triangular outer end por- 50 tion to lie beneath said end portions to retain the flaps in engagement with each other.

3. An envelop, having a body and two pairs of opposed flaps, one of said flaps having an enlarged substantially triangular 55 outer end portion separated from the remainder of the flap by a narrow neck, and the opposed flap of said pair being substantially rectangular and superposed upon said first-mentioned flap and having its outer 60 free corners provided with adhesive material and foldable along diagonal lines coincident with the edges of said triangular outer end portion to lie beneath said end portions to retain the flaps in engagement 65 with each other, and one of the flaps of the other pair having a diagonal end portion adjacent to and parallel with one of the edges

of said first-mentioned flap.

4. An envelop, having a body and two 70 pairs of opposed flaps, one of said flaps having an enlarged substantially triangular outer end portion separated from the remainder of the flap by a narrow neck, and the opposed flap of said pair being substan- 75 tially rectangular and superposed upon said first-mentioned flap and having its outer free corners provided with adhesive material and foldable along diagonal lines coincident with the edges of said triangular outer 80 end portion to lie beneath said end portions to retain the flaps in engagement with each other, and one of the flaps of the other pair having a diagonal slit therein adjacent to and substantially parallel with one edge of 85 the triangular outer end portion of said firstmentioned flap.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of

two subscribing witnesses.

NEIL JOSEPH MACDONALD.

Witnesses:

JOHN J. JOHNSTON, ELIZABETH JOHNSTON.