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B. A. DAHLKE

1,714,349

ENVELOPE

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Fig. 1.

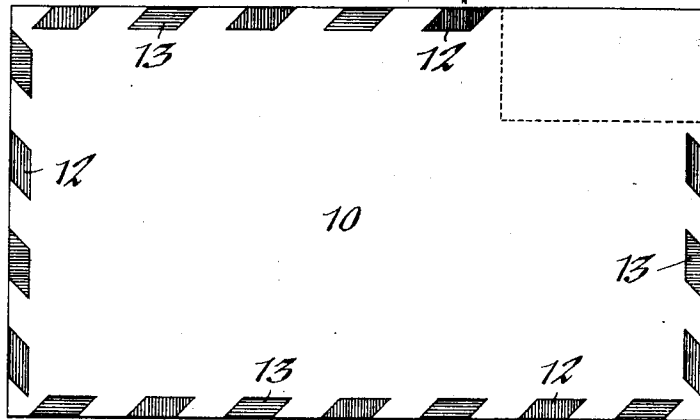


Fig. 2.

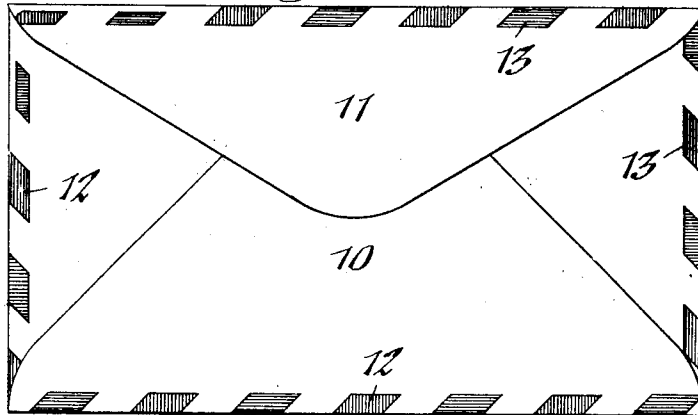


Fig. 3.

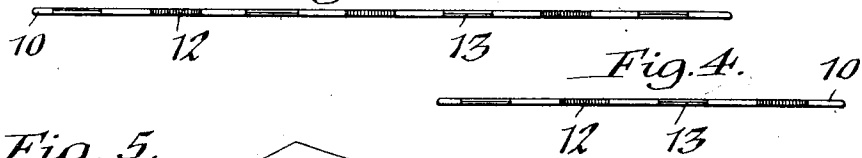
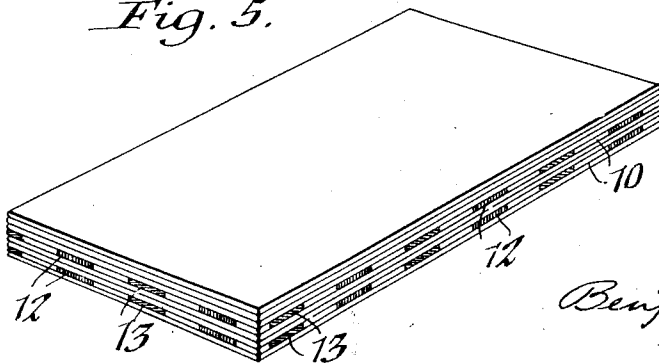


Fig. 5.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## ENVELOPE.

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This invention relates generally to stationery but more particularly to improvements in mailing-envelopes, post cards and the like to be transmitted by special service, such as airplane mail.

It has for its chief object to provide an envelope of this character which is neat and distinctive in appearance, and of a nature to be quickly sortable or classified by the mail clerks, irrespective of whether it is brought to their attention singly or in a bundle of miscellaneous mail matter.

Another object is the provision of an envelope having its distinguishing characteristics so displayed that they will in no way interfere with the spaces required for the stamps, forwarding address and return address.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 is a front view of an envelope embodying my invention. Figure 2 is a rear view thereof. Figures 3 and 4 are longitudinal and transverse edge views, respectively, of the envelope. Figure 5 is a perspective view of a bundle of envelopes interspersed with the envelopes of my invention.

Similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

While my invention is applicable to the various sorts of mail matter now dispatched through the mails, it has been shown, by way of example, in connection with an envelope having its sealing flap 11 disposed at its upper rear side. The envelope has been designed to facilitate and insure its proper distribution or segregation for special mailing service; as, in the instant case, airplane transmission from one place to another, and to that end embodies a distinguishing and characteristic border which is applied to the front and rear sides of the envelope as well as around the longitudinal and transverse edges thereof, so that the same can be quickly detected in any position whatsoever, either alone or interspersed in a bundle of mail matter, and be sorted and transmitted without oversight to the proper bags or carriers provided for such air mail matter.

In its preferred form, this distinguishing border consists of a series of differently colored bars or blocks 12, 13 disposed in spaced relation. The blocks 12 are shown as of a

red color and the alternating blocks 13 as blue, while the intervening spaces are of the color of the envelope, usually white, thereby producing a distinguishing red, white and blue border extending around the margins and edges of the envelope. As shown in Figure 1 the border, by preference, does not extend along the upper right hand corner of the envelope, but terminates a suitable distance therefrom to provide an open and unprinted space for the postage. On the reverse or rear side of the envelope and opposite the last-named corner, the colored blocks of the border extend around such corner but are preferably spaced from the extreme edge of the envelope in the manner shown in Figure 2.

By shaping the colored border-blocks 12, 13 in substantially the form of a parallelogram, as shown, and printing them in contrasting colors, a striking, conspicuous and distinctive disconnected or interrupted border design is produced which immediately attracts the eye and serves as a flash or signal, facilitating the duty of giving such mail the special attention required of mail clerks and insuring the quick and prompt delivery to which such mail is entitled. Furthermore, by carrying this characteristic border around the edges of the envelope, it can be readily detected in a pile, bundle or stack of miscellaneous envelopes, as shown in Fig. 5, thereby materially aiding in the quick assortment of air mail, or other special mail.

I claim as my invention:—

1. An article of the character described, having a disconnected marginal border of contrasting colors.

2. An article of the character described, having on its front and rear faces and along its marginal edges a disconnected border of contrasting colors.

3. An article of the character described, having a characteristic border extending in an interrupted fashion along its marginal faces and around its edges.

4. An article of the character described, having a disconnected marginal border of contrasting colors, said border being carried around the longitudinal and transverse edges of the envelope.

5. An article of the character described, having a marginal border composed of a

series of contrasting colored blocks, said blocks extending around the front and rear sides of the envelope and around its longitudinal and transverse edges.

5 6. An article of the character described, having a marginal border composed of a series of contrasting colored symbols extending around its longitudinal and transverse

edges, the longitudinally disposed border symbols being spaced apart in the direction 10 of the length of the envelope and the transversely disposed border elements being spaced apart in the direction of the width of the envelope.

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