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WRAPPED ARTICLE

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Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



INVENTOR.
HARRY H. REPLOGLE
SCHUYLER N. DALTON
BY Harold A. Swanson
ATTORNEY

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WRAPPED ARTICLE

Harry H. Replogle, Scarsdale, and Schuyler N. Dalton, Huntington Terrace, N. Y., assignors to Sylvania Industrial Corporation, Fredericksburg, Va., a corporation of Virginia

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3 Claims. (Cl. 229—89)

The invention relates in general to packaging and in particular to improved wrapped containers such as bottles and to correlated improvements in the decoration and identification of the wrapper.

Heretofore, it has been the practice to enclose bottles containing perfumes, medicines, beverages in a wrapper consisting of a sheet of transparent flexible non-fibrous material such, for example, as cellophane, the sheet being first wetted and then applied to the bottle so as to conform substantially to the curvature of the neck. When the sheet dries, the wrapper remains stuck to the glass, but the degree of adhesion is such that the wrapper may easily be stripped from the bottle without tearing it. In view of this fact and the prohibitive cost of employing adhesives over the entire sheet, the use of such transparent wrappers on bottles does not prevent the pirating of the wrappers, the adulteration of the contents, or even the substitution of other bottles containing other liquids for the one originally enclosed in the wrapper. Accordingly, the use of such wrappers imparts no feature of protection to the wrapped bottle and provides only a slight decorative interest.

It is a general object of the invention to provide an improved wrapped container presenting a pleasing appearance which is substantially tamperproof.

It is a specific object of the invention to provide an improved container comprising a bottle having a wrapper comprising a sheet of non-fibrous homogeneous material thereon and a shrinkable, non-fibrous closure over the mouth of said bottle, the shrinkable closure and wrapper being so positioned that neither can be removed without such destruction thereof as would indicate the removal, whereby the pirating of the wrapper and the adulteration of the contents of the bottle are rendered difficult or impossible.

Other objects of the invention will in part be obvious and will in part appear hereinafter.

According to the present invention, a container having a neck portion such as a bottle or the like is enclosed in a wrapper of a flexible sheet material and a plastic closure positioned around the top of the container and tightly enclosing the upper end of the wrapper.

The invention accordingly comprises a novel article comprising the features, the elements and the relation of elements, and a process comprising the steps and the relation of steps, all as exemplified in the following detailed disclosure, and the scope of the application of which will be indicated in the claims.

For a fuller understanding of the nature and objects of the invention, reference should be had to the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a container provided with a wrapper in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention; and

Fig. 2 is an elevational view of another embodiment of the invention.

Referring to Fig. 1 in the drawing, a container such, for example, as a bottle 10, is wrapped in a sheet 11 of transparent flexible material in such a manner that the longitudinal seam is lengthwise of the bottle and preferably on the back or side thereof. At the bottom 12 of the bottle the overhanging portions of the wrapper are folded over one upon another and united by a suitable adhesive or by heat-sealing the contiguous surfaces if the wrapper is of the heat-sealing type. At the upper end 13 of the container, the overhanging portions of the wrapper are draped to conform substantially to the shape of the neck of the bottle by folding, pleating, creasing, crimping, etc. A shrinkable container closure 14, in the form of a band or cap, is placed over the mouth and/or neck of the container and the draped portions of the wrapper in such a manner that when the closure shrinks, it will enclose and tauten the loose ends of the wrapper 11.

In Fig. 2, there is shown a container, such for example, as a bottle 15, having a sheet 16 of a transparent flexible material wrapped thereabout. At the bottom 17, the overhanging portions of the wrapper may be suitably folded thereunder and secured to the bottom of the container if so desired. At the upper end 18 of the container, the overhanging portions of the wrapper are draped to conform substantially to the shape of the neck of the bottle by twisting together the ends of the wrapper which extend beyond the top of the bottle. A plastic container closure 19, in the form of a band or cap, is placed over the mouth and/or neck of the container and the draped end of the wrapper in such a manner that when the closure is applied it will enclose and tauten the loose ends of the wrapper 16.

The wrapper may comprise any suitable flexible sheet material, either fibrous material such, for example, as paper, glassine, but preferably a non-fibrous, homogeneous material such, for example, as cellophane, cellulose esters, cellulose

ethers, cellulose alk-oxy ethers, gelatin, casein, rubber and synthetic plastics such as chlorinated rubber and polymerized vinyl compounds in sheet form. The sheet material may or may not carry a moistureproof coating.

The plastic container closure 14 may comprise a cap or band formed of a non-fibrous, homogeneous material swelling in water such, for example, as cellulose hydrate, an alkali-soluble cellulose ether, gelatin, casein, or it may consist of non-fibrous, homogeneous material which swells in an organic solvent such, for example, as cellulose esters, such as cellulose acetate, cellulose ethers, such as di-ethyl cellulose and di-benzyl cellulose. A closure made of one of the above materials shrinks upon the loss of the solvent and conforms substantially to the shape of the mouth and neck of the container. The invention also contemplates the use of a plastic metal cap which may be made to tightly enclose the upper end of the wrapper by spinning the plastic metal in a known manner about the neck of the bottle.

It will be observed that by the present invention there is provided a novel and advantageous wrapped container for packaging commodities such, for example, as perfumes, medicine, beverages, in such a manner as to inhibit or prevent the pirating of the wrapper, trade-marks, slogans, etc., or the adulteration of or substitution of the contents of the container, the wrapper and closure being so applied to the bottle that it is difficult or impossible to remove same without such destruction thereof as will indicate such removal.

While reference throughout this application has been made to a bottle, it is within the purview of the invention to employ any suitable container having a neck portion whether formed of glass, metal or any other suitable material. The term "bottle" is used herein to generically connote any suitable container having a neck portion.

This application is a division of our application, Serial No. 753,110, filed November 15, 1934.

Since certain changes in carrying out the above process, and certain modifications in the article which embodies the invention may be made without departing from its scope, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the acompanying drawing shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

It is also to be understood that the following claims are intended to cover all of the generic and specific features of the invention herein described, and all statements of the scope of the invention which, as a matter of language, might be said to fall therebetween.

The expression "neck" as used in the specification and claims is intended to include the top of any container, more particularly that area adjacent the opening whether constricted or not with respect to the body of the container.

Having described our invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A tamperproof package comprising in combination, a container in the form of a bottle, a transparent flexible wrapper of non-fibrous sheet material tightly enclosing said container, said wrapper being sealed at the bottom of said container and the upper end being draped to conform to the neck of the container, and a shrinkable container closure positioned around the top of the container and shrunk tightly over the draped end of the wrapper and due to its shrunken condition gripping and stretching the draped end of the wrapper.

2. A tamperproof package comprising in combination, a container in the form of a bottle, a transparent flexible wrapper of non-fibrous cellulosic sheet material tightly enclosing said container, said wrapper being sealed at the bottom of said container and the upper end being draped to conform to the neck of the container, and a shrinkable container closure in the form of a cap positioned around the top of the container and shrunk tightly over the draped end of the wrapper and due to its shrunken condition gripping and stretching the draped end of the wrapper.

3. A tamperproof package comprising in combination, a container in the form of a bottle, a transparent flexible wrapper of non-fibrous cellulosic material tightly enclosing said container, said wrapper being sealed at the bottom of said container and the upper end being draped to conform to the neck of the container, and a shrinkable container closure in the form of a band positioned around the top of the container and shrunk tightly over the draped end of the wrapper and due to its shrunken condition gripping and stretching the draped end of the wrapper.

HARRY H. REPLOGLE.
SCHUYLER N. DALTON.