March 31, 1942. H. B. SMITH 2,277,669

CLOTHESPIN PACKAGE

Original Filed April 12, 1938

Fig. 1.

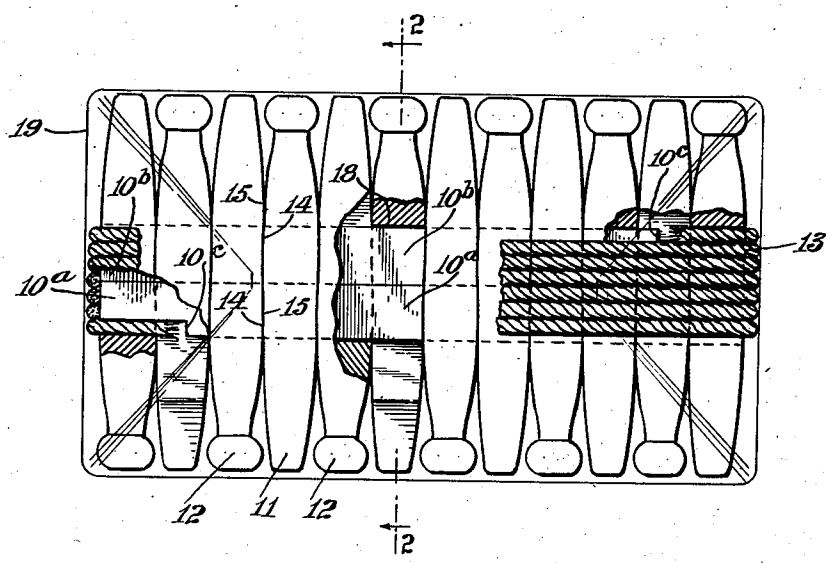
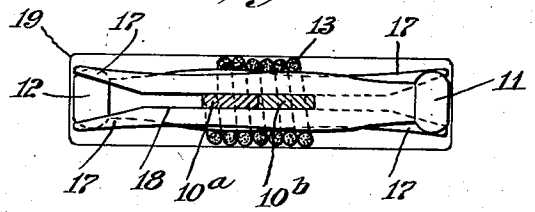


Fig. 2.



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CLOTHESPIN PACKAGE

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Original application April 12, 1938, Serial No. 201,517. Divided and this application March 11, 1940, Serial No. 323,296

14 Claims. (Cl. 206—47)

This invention relates to packages for clothes pins and the like and has for its object to provide a simple and inexpensive yet rugged and attractive package for clothes pins. Another object is to provide means for holding a number of clothes pins on a stick or other support by clamping them longitudinally of said support and laterally of the clothes pins. A further object is to provide a row of clothes pins within a transparent wrapper without the support on which they are mounted being visible.

Still another object is to arrange adjacent clothes pins on a stick or other support with contiguous pins being arranged in opposite directions and their contiguous sides being shaped to form an interlocking recess and projection.

Referring to the drawing, Fig. 1 shows a preferred embodiment of the clothes pin package, partly in section.

Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

The clothes pins shown in Fig. 1 are arranged on a supporting stick 10 to which the prongs of each pin frictionally adhere. The stick 10 is preferably made in two parts, 10—*a* and 10—*b* for a purpose hereinafter to be described. As illustrated, alternate pins 11 have their prongs extending in the same direction, whereas the prongs of the other set of alternate pins extend in the opposite direction to those of the first set, the same being designated by the numerals 12.

A wrapper for holding the pins contiguous one another in a direction longitudinally of the stick includes a length of clothes line 13 of appropriate size for use with the pins of this package. The line 13 is wrapped around the pins as illustrated in Fig. 1. Each end of the clothes line is held in place by being tucked into the portion of the slot of the end pin which lies between the edge of the stick and the pin body at the inner end of the slot. In order that such end pins may not be raised out of alignment with the others, the adjacent portion of the stick is preferably recessed as shown at 10—*c*, the recess or notch being of a width substantially equal to the diameter of the clothes line, and the length of such notch or recess being sufficient to receive the tucked in end of the clothes line.

The contiguous sides of the pins are not straight, but are shaped to provide interlocking projection and recess portions, the projections being designated by the numerals 14 and the cooperative recess portions by the numerals 15. In this way, when the pins are laterally clamped on the stick there is then little or no chance of any pin being withdrawn from the package in a direction transversely of the stick, because the recess and projection portions 15 and 14 preclude it.

A wrapper of transparent cellulose sheeting 19 or the like is arranged to provide a snugly fitting envelope enclosing the previously described assemblage, and this wrapper 19 may also assist the clothes line 13 in clamping the pins contiguous one another in a direction longitudinally of the stick. The paper envelope also prevents the possibility of any pin being slid off the stick even if improperly made and regardless of its friction fit on the stick and any interlocking action with laterally contiguous pins. Other convenient ways of retaining the ends of the clothes line may be used, for example, common pins stuck laterally through the ends of the line and into contiguous strands, or paper labels may be pasted over the ends of the line to hold them in place. A length of line is chosen such that when wound it just substantially covers the stick and no more.

To assemble the package shown in Fig. 1 the pins 11 are arranged on the portion 10—*b* of the stick in spaced relation and the pins 12 arranged on the portion 10—*a* of the stick when the two portions of the stick are separate from one another. After being so mounted each plurality of pins may have their heads or body portions dipped in a body of liquid paint or other appropriate coating material to provide a more attractive looking package and also to provide a neater pin since it is the head or body portion of the pin which is subjected to the greatest handling and likelihood of becoming soiled. This dipping just referred to only extends down to about where the prongs begin and preferably not beyond. After the heads have been coated and dried, the two portions of the stick 10—*a* and 10—*b* are moved together to form the pins each mounted on both portions of the stick. The clothes line is then wrapped around the pins to clamp them in position with the lateral interlocking means being effective to prevent withdrawal of a pin in a direction transverse to the stick. In Fig. 2 it will be seen how the prongs 17 of each pin frictionally contact the two portions of the stick which are received within the slot of each pin.

The slight lateral recessing for the prongs of the clothes pin described in connection with Fig. 1 assists to some extent in making the prongs more flexible. The package of Fig. 1 need not necessarily include the clothes line, since the paper envelope may be tightly fitted about the

package to securely hold the pins against displacement either laterally or longitudinally of the stick. The stick, of course, may be in one or two parts as described. If desired, the flat faces of the stick may be slightly bevelled, just enough to cause the prongs better to engage the stick over their substantially contiguous surfaces.

This application is a division of my copending application S. N. 201,517 filed April 12, 1938, which has eventuated into Letters Patent No. 2,206,733, dated July 2, 1940.

I claim:

1. A package of similar clothes pins comprising a supporting means on which the pins are mounted in alternate manner in substantial alignment with the supporting means received in the slot of each pin, the contiguous sides of the pins being each shaped to provide interlocking projection and recessed portions, and means holding said pins contiguous one another whereby said pins are held against being removed from said supporting means by said interlocking projection and recess portions.

2. A package of clothes pins comprising a stick frictionally fitting between the prongs and substantially contiguous the inner ends of the slots formed in the pins between the prongs, and a clothes line wrapped around said pins and holding them against displacement longitudinally of the stick and substantially contiguous one another, the end portions of said line being tucked into the slot of an end pin between the stick and the body of such pin, the stick being of reduced width along the tucked in ends of said line whereby the pins may be arranged in substantial alignment longitudinally of the stick.

3. The combination with a supporting member of a plurality of clothes pins mounted on said member with the prongs of alternate pins projecting in the same direction and the prongs of contiguous pins projecting in opposite directions, a wrapper holding the pins contiguous one another on said supporting member, and means preventing withdrawal of any one of the pins from said supporting member and comprising interlocking recess and projection portions on the sides of each pin cooperating with complementary portions of contiguous pins.

4. A package of clothes pins comprising a stick longitudinally divided into at least two parts, clothes pins alternately arranged on the stick in substantial alignment and with the stick substantially contiguous the body end of each slot between the prongs, the sides of the pins contiguous other pins being shaped to provide interlocking projection and recess portions adapted to prevent withdrawal of a pin laterally of said stick, a clothes line wrapped around said pins and holding them together in a direction longitudinal of the stick and a substantially transparent wrapper enclosing said pins and line tightly enough for the wrapper to assist in holding the pins against displacement either longitudinally or laterally of said stick.

5. The method of preparing and packaging clothes pins which comprises mounting a plurality of clothes pins on a stick spaced from one another by about the width of a pin, similarly mounting another plurality of pins on another stick, coating the body portions of the pins by dipping each plurality of pins into a coating fluid while same are held on said stick, bringing the sticks and pins together with the sticks substantially contiguous one another within the prongs of the pins and with the pins alternately arranged, and wrapping said pins to hold them substantially contiguous one another in a direction longitudinally of the sticks.

6. A package of similar clothes pins comprising a supporting means on which the pins are mounted in alternate manner in substantial alignment with the supporting means received in the slot of each pin, the contiguous sides of the pins being each shaped to provide interlocking projection and recessed portions, and means holding said pins contiguous one another whereby said pins are held against being removed from said supporting means by said interlocking projection and recess portions, said holding means comprising a flexible wrapper substantially contiguous the opposite ends of the pins to also assist in holding the pins on said supporting means.

7. A package of similar clothes pins comprising a supporting means on which the pins are mounted in alternate manner in substantial alignment with the supporting means received in the slot of each pin, the contiguous sides of the pins being each shaped to provide interlocking projection and recessed portions, and means holding said pins contiguous one another whereby said pins are held against being removed from said supporting means by said interlocking projection and recess portions, said holding means including a clothes line wrapped around said pins transversely thereof and longitudinally of said supporting means.

8. A package of similar clothes pins comprising a supporting means on which the pins are mounted in alternate manner in substantial alignment with the supporting means received in the slot of each pin, the contiguous sides of the pins being each shaped to provide interlocking projection and recessed portions, and means holding said pins contiguous one another whereby said pins are held against being removed from said supporting means by said interlocking projection and recess portions, said holding means including a clothes line wrapped around said pins transversely thereof and longitudinally of said supporting means, said line being at least of a length substantially sufficient to cover said supporting means.

9. A clothes pin package comprising a stick on which the pins are mounted contiguous one another with the prongs of alternate pins extending in the same directions and the prongs of adjacent pins in opposite directions, the contiguous side portions of said pins being shaped to provide interlocking projection and recess portions whereby any pin intermediate contiguous pins is not adapted to be freely withdrawn from said stick without relative movement longitudinally of the stick between the stick and pins on at least one side thereof.

10. A clothes pin package comprising a stick on which the pins are mounted with their contiguous side portions being shaped to provide interlocking projection and recess parts, and tension means extending longitudinally of said stick for holding said pins interlocked against being removed from said stick.

11. A clothes pin package comprising a stick on which the pins are mounted contiguous one another with the prongs of alternate pins extending in the same directions and the prongs of adjacent pins in opposite directions, the contiguous side portions of said pins being shaped to provide interlocking projection and recess portions, a line wrapped longitudinally of said stick

around said pins for holding the pins against removal, and means for fastening the ends of said line against coming loose.

12. A package of clothes pins comprising a stick, clothes pins alternately arranged on the stick in substantial alignment the sides of the pins contiguous other pins being shaped to provide interlocking projection and recess portions adapted to prevent withdrawal of a pin laterally of said stick, a clothes line wrapped around said pins and holding them together in a direction longitudinal of the stick and a substantially transparent wrapper enclosing said pins and line tightly enough for the wrapper to assist in holding the pins against displacement either longitudinally or laterally of said stick.

13. The method of packaging clothes pins which comprises mounting a plurality of clothes pins on a stick spaced apart about the width of a pin, similarly mounting another plurality of pins on another stick, bringing the sticks and pins toward one another until the pins are in substantial alinement longitudinally of the sticks with adjacent pins alternately arranged, and pressing the pins together longitudinally of the sticks.

14. The method of packaging clothes pins which comprises mounting a plurality of clothes pins on a stick spaced apart about the width of a pin, similarly mounting another plurality of pins on another stick, bringing the sticks and pins toward one another until the pins are in substantial alinement longitudinally of the sticks with adjacent pins alternately arranged, and pressing the pins together longitudinally of the sticks, with projection and recess portions on contiguous sides of the pins interlocking, and wrapping at least one member around the pins whereby said member tends to maintain the pins in interlocking engagement.

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