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W. J. METTS

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PACKAGING SURGICAL COTTON

Filed Aug. 27, 1931

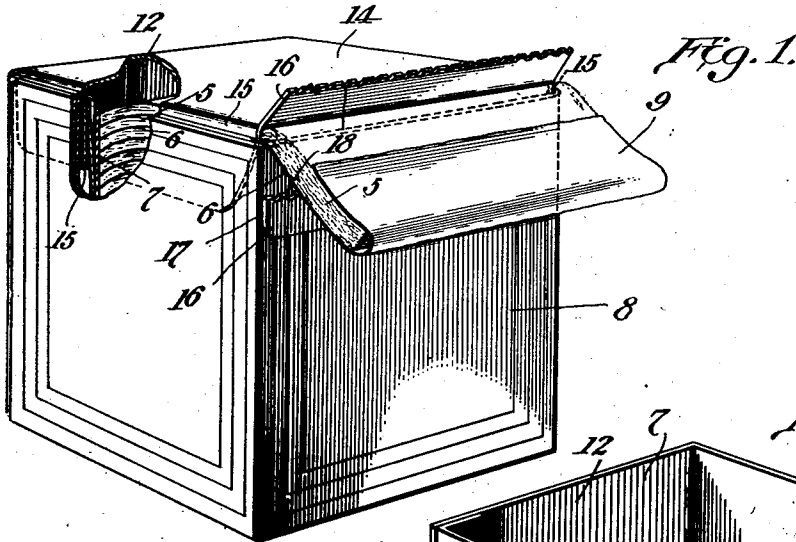


Fig. 2.

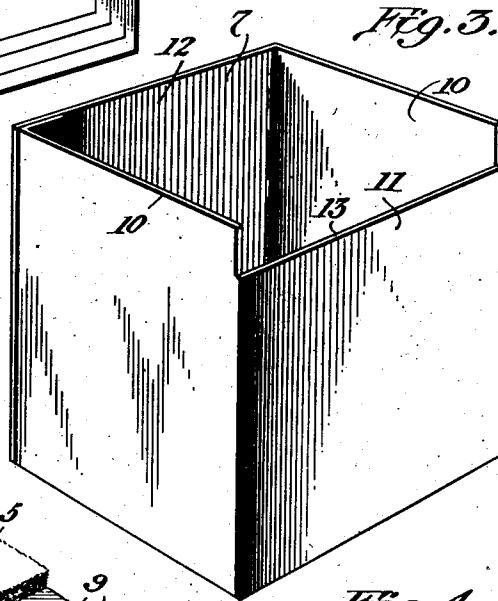
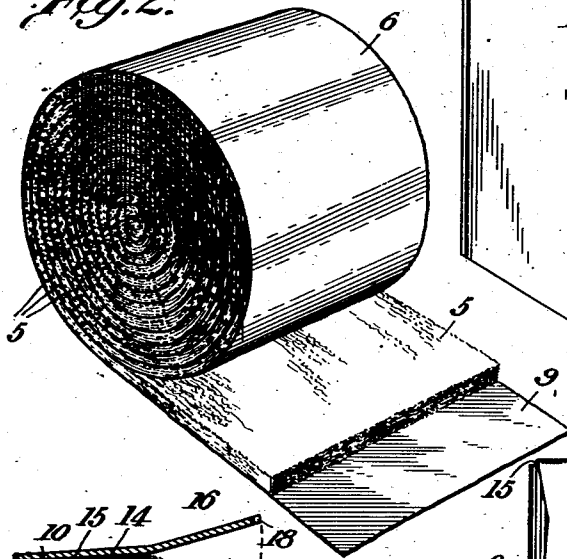


Fig. 4.

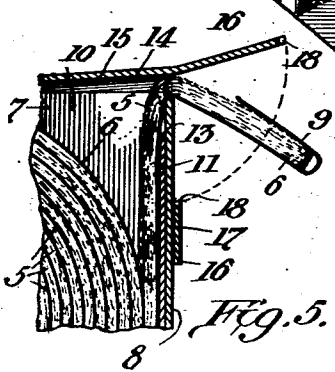
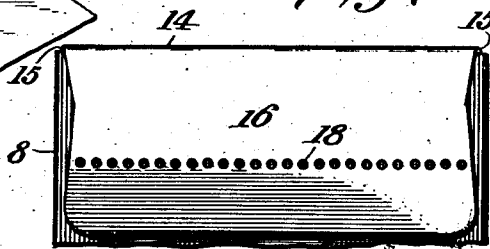


Fig. 5.

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PACKAGING SURGICAL COTTON

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Objects of the invention are to package surgical cotton intended for emergency use in such way that it always will be clean, fresh, and sterile; to provide for storing and dispensing the cotton in roll form and under aseptic conditions which eliminate the necessity of direct handling; and to accomplish these results in a simple and inexpensive way.

The preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, forming a part hereof, wherein

Figure 1 is a perspective view, partly broken away, of the improved package in dispensing relation.

Fig. 2 shows a roll of cotton.

Fig. 3 shows the cage or form for the roll.

Figs. 4 and 5 are elevational and sectional details, respectively, of the carton closure.

The improved package embodies surgical absorbent cotton 5, rolled upon itself, preferably in conjunction with a sheet of paper or other facing strip 6; a flexible flat sided tubular form, cage or holder 7 for the roll; and an external casing or carton 8 which constitutes an aseptic housing for the holder and its contained roll.

The fibrous or absorbent cotton 5, in condensed state, is rolled upon itself in conjunction with a facing strip, as a sheet of paper 6, to form a roll of predetermined size.

It may here be remarked that the paper or other strip 6 is useful not only for shrouding purposes, making for aseptic environment conditions, but having greater tensile strength, facilitates the unwinding and dispensing of the roll of cotton. By preference it extends beyond the cotton terminal so as to provide a protecting apron 9 adapted to overlap the cotton terminal and enable the same to be grasped between the thumb and finger without direct contact.

A roll such as described snugly fits the form, cage or holder 7 in such way that its ends frictionally engage opposed walls 10 of the cage and its periphery is confined between the front and back walls 11 and 12. The cage or form 7 is a four-wall cardboard structure open at top and bottom for the described frictional reception of the roll. The merit of such flat sided tubular structure

is that it has inherent flexibility and the flexing of the side walls enables the structure always to take a binding fit against the ends of the dressing so that the tendency of creepage of the roll under unwinding stress is eliminated without resort to pins or other special anchoring expedients of the old practice. The front wall 11 of the tubular structure is of less height than the end walls and has a lip or straight edge 13. The gate thus provided by the lip and the end walls of the form lends further friction to the passage of the cotton under dispensing action. The straight edge or lip 13 also may be availed of to part or sever the cotton at the point desired, when, with the lid not held down, the holder 7 may be slightly elevated in response to pull on the cotton.

The external casing or carton is of a size snugly to receive the form or cage and its contents and in such way that the discharge end of the cage registers with the discharge end of the carton. While the carton may be of any construction appropriate for the purpose, it is preferred to employ a carton having a hinged head or lid 14 having tucking flaps 15 and an external sealing flap 16 glued or cemented externally to the carton as at 17, and of such liberal proportions that, when severed or parted along the line of perforations 18, in order to release the closure, it is still useful as a tucking flap to aid in properly housing the cotton until entirely used up. And it will be understood that the cutaway front of the tubular cage or holder allows for stowage or tucking of the flap.

What is claimed is:—

1. The combination of a flexible flat sided tubular cardboard structure open at both ends to allow full freedom of flexure of the side walls, a roll of surgical dressing disposed in said tubular structure and held against creepage in unwinding by the binding fit of the side walls, and a receptacle for the tubular structure and its contained roll.
2. The combination set forth in claim 1, having the further characteristic that the front wall of the tubular structure is fore-shortened to provide a friction guide for the dressing.

3. The combination of a flexible flat sided
tubular cardboard structure open at both
ends, a roll of surgical dressing disposed
therein and held against creepage in un-
5 winding by the binding fit of the side walls,
the front wall of the tubular structure be-
ing foreshortened to provide a friction guide
for the dressing, and a receptacle for the
tubular structure and its contained roll pro-
10 vided with a hinged cover having an initial
surface seal flap convertible into a tucking
flap accommodated by the foreshortened
portion.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

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WALTER J. METTS.

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