

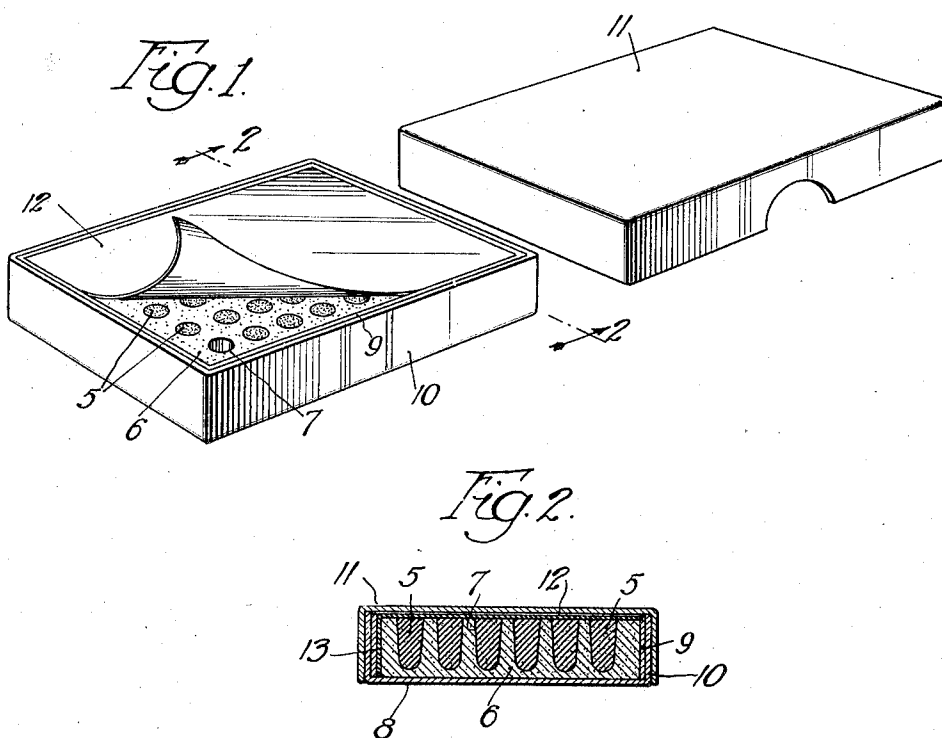
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PACKAGE FOR PERISHABLE MEDICATED ARTICLES

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PACKAGE FOR PERISHABLE MEDICATED ARTICLES

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This invention relates to package for perishable medicated articles, and more particularly to a package for such articles which tend to deteriorate when kept unsupported or exposed to the atmosphere. More specifically, the invention relates to an improved form of package for a dental suppository of an elastic or plastic character, and which preferably contains both antiseptic and anesthetic properties, the usefulness of which suppository may be lost by drying out when subjected to continuous exposure to the atmosphere.

The objects of my invention are; to provide a package for articles of the above described class which will be effective to preserve or maintain the same, fresh and usable, almost indefinitely by preventing exposure of the articles to the atmosphere and maintaining their shape; to provide a package which will also be effective to maintain the articles clean and in a sanitary condition; to provide a package which will hold the articles individually in a position whereby they are conveniently accessible and usable; and in general, to provide an improved package of the class described.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be understood by reference to the following specification and accompanying drawing in which I have illustrated a package of dental suppositories embodying a preferred form of my invention.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective showing my improved package with the cover of the outer container removed, and

Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, the cover of the container being shown in place on the container.

The articles indicated at 5 in the drawing, in the present embodiment of my invention, are dental suppositories which are of an elastic or plastic character, and which contain antiseptic and anesthetic properties.

The suppositories may, for instance, consist mainly of a body of glycerine and gelatine, cocoa butter, or sodium stearate, which body is impregnated with the desired quantity and kind of antiseptic or anesthetic, or both. Suppositories of the above described

composition may be made firm enough to ordinarily maintain their given shape, often more or less conical, while at the same time being sufficiently elastic or plastic to be capable of conforming to the shape of the cavities into which they are inserted.

I have found that suppositories of the above described composition give excellent results, but that they tend to melt and lose shape when kept in a warm place or to become less effective when exposed to the atmosphere for a considerable length of time. For preventing deterioration I provide a package which includes a block 6 of impervious material such as paraffin, and in the block I provide a plurality of recesses or sockets 7, which are shaped to correspond to the shape of the suppositories or other articles which are to be packaged, and which are herein shown as being substantially conical in shape. The thickness of the block of paraffin is somewhat greater than the length of the packaged articles, and the depth of the sockets 7 is substantially the same as the length of the articles. Hence, the bottoms or apex ends of the sockets will be closed as indicated at 8, by a portion of the paraffin block. The upper or base ends of the sockets open to the top face of the paraffin block.

The suppositories 5 are pre-formed in a suitable mold, and the paraffin block is also formed in a mold which is provided with means for producing the sockets 7. The molded paraffin block is preferably bounded by a border strip 9 of fairly stiff cardboard or the like, and the block with its border strip 9 is inserted in a box or container 10, of any suitable material, which may conveniently be a fairly heavy grade of cardboard, so that the box will be comparatively rigid. A cover 11 for the container 10 is provided and this cover may be made of the same material of which the box part 10 is made. This container and its cover are effective to protect the paraffin block 6 from injury from outside sources.

The conical shaped suppositories 5 may be inserted into the respective sockets 7, either before or after the paraffin block is placed in the container 10, and they may be removed

from the respective sockets by inserting any suitable, preferably pointed instrument into the top or base portion of the suppository, and simply lifting the suppository out of the socket.

5 For protecting the upper ends of the suppositories from exposure to the atmosphere, I provide a cover sheet 12 of impervious material preferably metal-foil, and this cover
10 sheet may be conveniently secured in place by inserting a marginal portion 12 thereof between one side wall of the paraffin block and the adjacent part of the border strip 9. It will be understood that the cover sheet 12
15 may be lifted from one side of the box in the manner indicated in Fig. 1 to afford access to the suppositories.

As shown in Fig. 1, only a few of the suppositories need be exposed in order to permit
20 withdrawal of one of them. Hence, they are not all exposed each time the box is opened, so that there is no gradual deterioration due to opening of the box for the purpose of withdrawing a single suppository. I have
25 also found that the above described packaging means has the advantage of keeping the suppositories in a clean and sanitary condition, since they cannot roll around in the box to pick up dirt or other foreign matter which
30 finds its way into the box when the latter is opened. Because of the waxy or greasy nature of both the suppository and the paraffin block, there is practically no adhesion between the same so that withdrawal of the suppositories from the sockets is readily accomplished in the manner above explained.

I am aware that changes may be made in the form and construction of my improved package, as well as in the proportion of the
40 parts thereof, and in the use to which it is put, without departing from the spirit of the invention, the scope of which should be determined by reference to the following claims, the same being construed as broadly
45 as possible, consistent with the state of the art.

I claim as my invention:

1. A package for medicated articles or the like, which tend to deteriorate upon exposure
50 to the atmosphere or to lose their shape, comprising a substantially rigid block of impervious material provided with a plurality of sockets opening to one side of said block, said sockets being closed at their other ends by a
55 portion of said block, each of said sockets being adapted to snugly receive one of the articles to be packaged, and a cover sheet of impervious material adhered to said side of the block and extending over the open ends of
60 said sockets, said cover sheet being adapted to be partially removed from time to time to permit withdrawal of one of the articles from its socket.

2. A package for medicated articles or the
55 like, which tend to deteriorate upon exposure

to the atmosphere or to lose their shape, comprising an outer container including an openable cover permitting access to the interior of said container, a filler block of impervious material fitting in said container and provided with a plurality of sockets of less depth
70 than the corresponding dimension of said block, said sockets being closed at their inner ends by a portion of the filler block and having their outer ends open at the top face of
75 said block, each of said sockets being adapted to snugly receive one of said articles, and a cover of impervious sheet material disposed over said top face for closing the open ends of said sockets, thereby to prevent exposure
80 to the atmosphere of the outer ends of said articles.

3. A package for substantially cone shaped articles which tend to deteriorate when exposed to the atmosphere or to lose their shape
85 comprising a block of impervious material provided with a plurality of inverted, substantially cone shaped sockets which are respectively adapted to receive said articles, said sockets being of less depth than the corresponding dimension of said block, whereby
90 said sockets are closed at their inner or apex ends by a portion of said block, said sockets having their outer or base ends open at the top of said block for permitting insertion or
95 removal of the articles, a removable cover of impervious sheet material disposed over said top face of the block for closing the open ends of said sockets to thereby prevent exposure of
100 said outer ends of the articles, and an openable, protective enclosure for said block.

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