Feb. 27, 1968 ÅKE NILSSON 3,370,783

WRAPPING

Filed Sept. 20, 1966 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

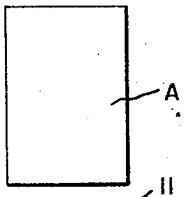


FIG. 1a

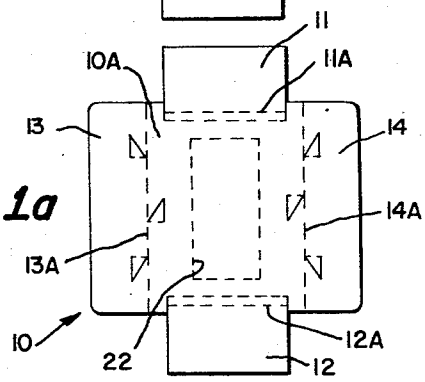


FIG. 1b

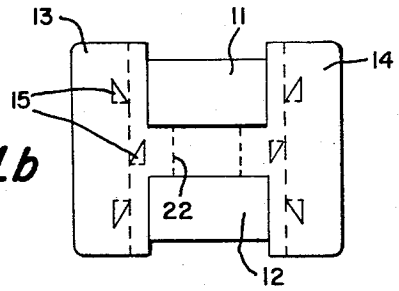


FIG. 1c

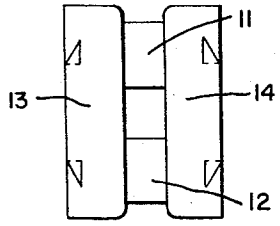


FIG. 1d

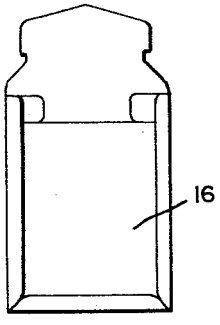


FIG. 2a

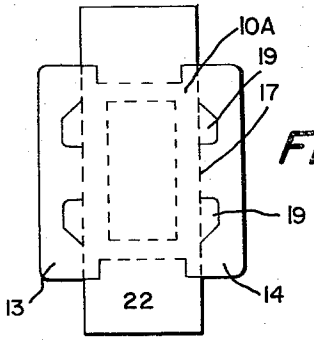


FIG. 2b

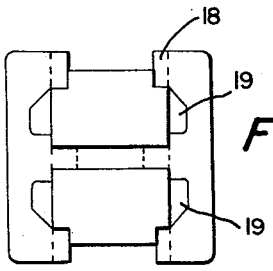


FIG. 2c

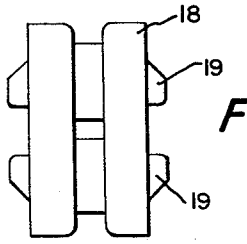
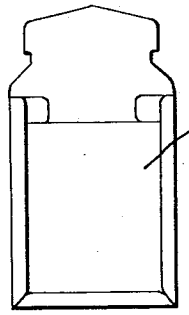


FIG. 2d



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Feb. 27, 1968 ÅKE NILSSON 3,370,783

WRAPPING

Filed Sept. 20, 1966 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 3a

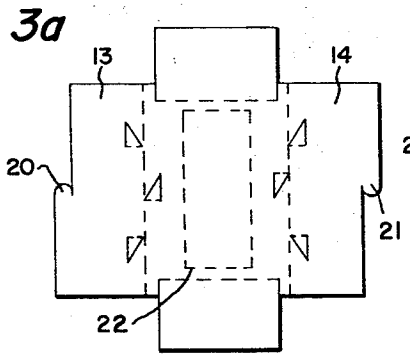


FIG. 4a

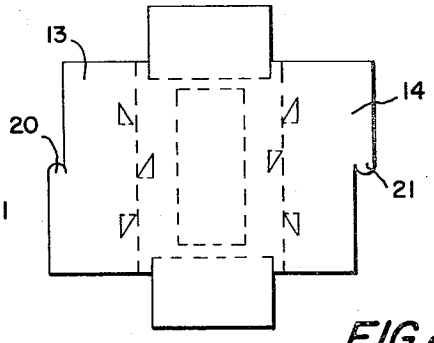


FIG. 3b

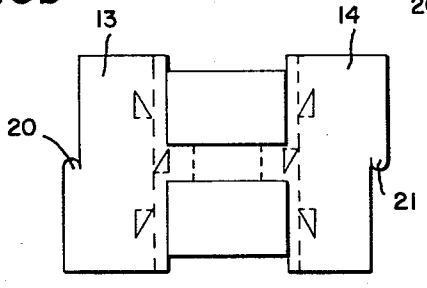


FIG. 4b

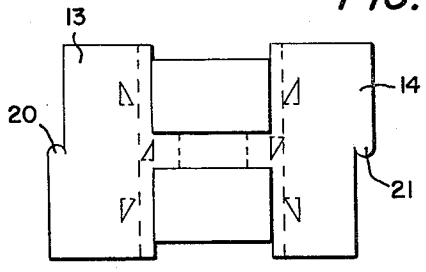


FIG. 4c

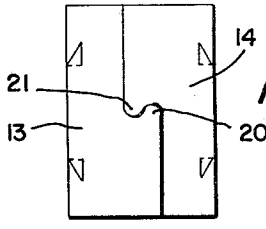
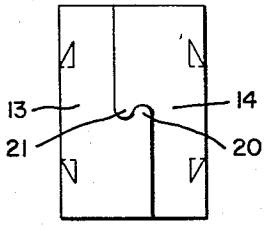


FIG. 3c



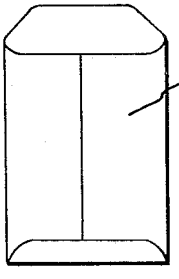


FIG. 4d

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3,370,783

WRAPPING

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5 Claims. (Cl. 229—87)

Generally, it may be said that hitherto no wrapping for packing thin flat objects has been provided which is entirely satisfactory in every respect. Natural demands on such wrappings are that they should be easy to handle, that they should protect the packed objects satisfactorily, even when rather roughly handled, and that they should be comparatively cheap. At least in the case of wrappings for photographs which are often expensive, for delivery by mail, for instance, the latter requirement has had to stand back in favor of the necessity for the photographs to reach the addressee in undamaged condition.

It is an object of the present invention to eliminate the drawback mentioned above and for this purpose the wrapping according to the invention consists of a flexible buffer box in the form of a flat box body with foldable end flaps and longitudinal side flaps, the box body having portions supporting the objects packed against displacement laterally and longitudinally as well as portions projecting, in the folded condition of the box, beyond the outline of the object packed to serve as impact absorbing buffers.

The invention will be described in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawing which shows diagrammatically some embodiments of the invention chosen as examples.

FIGURE 1 is a plan view of a small bundle of objects such as photographs, for instance, intended to be wrapped.

FIGURES 1*a*, 1*b*, 1*c* and 1*d* show a first embodiment of the invention with the successive steps involved for wrapping the same.

FIGURES 2*a*, 2*b*, 2*c* and 2*d* show a similar series of steps for a second modification.

FIGURES 3*a*, 3*b* and 3*c* illustrate a slightly simplified wrapping of a third embodiment of the invention, and

FIGURES 4*a*, 4*b*, 4*c* and 4*d* illustrate a fourth embodiment.

All the wrappings shown are intended for packing thin, flat objects, such as a small bundle of photographs for instance indicated in the drawing by the object A.

As shown in the drawing, the wrapping consists basically of an open flexible buffer box **10** having end flaps **11**, **12** and longitudinal side flaps **13**, **14**. The end flaps **11**, **12** may be folded back along folding lines **11A** and **12A**, respectively, two or more folding lines extending in parallel, if desired, so that after folding back the end flaps the box will have a certain thickness. Similarly, the longitudinal flaps are folded back along folding lines **13A**, **14A**.

Along each longitudinal edge the box **10** has three supporting flaps **15** formed by two cuts substantially perpendicular to each other and connected by a folding line. These flaps may be folded up through 90° around their folding lines so that on either side of the box **10** all three flaps have one cut edge located in a common plane perpendicular to the box body **10A** between the flaps **11–14**.

To wrap an object, the supporting flaps **15** are first folded up and then the object A is placed between them and the end flaps **11**, **12** are then folded over, see FIG. 1*b*. The longitudinal flaps **13**, **14** are folded over and the supporting flaps **15** will thereby assume a supporting position automatically determined by the thickness of the

object A placed in the box. Now, the wrapping has the appearance shown in FIG. 1*c*. Finally, the box with its contents may be put in the outer cover **16** shown in FIG. 1*d*. The cover **16** may be closed permanently or to be readily opened, whichever is desired.

The embodiment in FIG. 2 differs from the one described above particularly in that the folding lines, in this case generally designated by **17**, are disposed almost entirely in accordance with the outline of the object A As a result, the ends of the longitudinal flaps **13**, **14**, when folded over, will form impact absorbing buffers **18**, as apparent from FIGS. 2*b* and 2*c*. The four flaps **19** are designed such that on folding over of the longitudinal flaps they maintain their position in the same plane as the box body **10A**, so that the flaps **19** automatically form impact absorbing buffers. The outer cover **16** is exactly like the other cover described above.

In the embodiment according to FIGURE 3, the box **10** very much resembles the one shown in FIG. 1. However, in FIG. 3 the longitudinal flaps **13**, **14** have been provided at their outer edges with oppositely directed tongues **20**, **21** which engage each other when the flaps are folded over and thereby hold the flaps in folded position. Here an automatic locking is obtained, and as will be apparent from FIG. 3*c*, this box is eminently suitable for other delivery than by mail such as internal delivery by messenger in a large office. In such case, of course, no outer cover is necessary.

FIG. 4 shows that the embodiment described with reference to FIG. 3 may very well be supplemented by an outer cover **16** corresponding to the one described above. In the latter case, the presence of the tongues **20**, **21** is justified by the fact that they hold the box together tightly and thereby facilitate its introduction into the outer cover **16**, thus rendering unnecessary a manual holding down of the flaps **13**, **14**.

If it should be desirable with a view to saving postage expenses or to using the invention for other purposes, it should be possible, in some cases, to provide openings of varying sizes in the box body **10A** without noticeably weakening its strength, such as the openings **22** indicated by broken lines.

It will be appreciated that many modifications and alterations of details are possible within the scope of the inventive idea.

I claim:

1. A wrapping for packing thin flat objects in a flexible buffer box comprising a flat body having foldable end flaps and longitudinal side flaps, said body having portions for supporting said objects against displacement laterally and longitudinally and having projecting portions, in the folded condition of the box, beyond the outline of said objects when packed in said box forming impact absorbing buffers.

2. A wrapping as claimed in claim **1**, wherein said supporting portions consist of raisable flaps stamped out in said body and longitudinal side flaps, and said buffer portions are formed in said body, said longitudinal side flaps and said end flaps being located outside the outline of said objects, when the box has been folded.

3. A wrapping as claimed in claim **1**, wherein said supporting portions are formed in said end flaps and said longitudinal side flaps and said buffer portions are formed by tongues lying in the plane of the box body and projecting beyond the longitudinal side flaps, in the folded-back condition thereof, and by the end portions of the longitudinal side flaps outside the folded-back end flaps.

4. A wrapping as claimed in claim 1, wherein the free edges of said longitudinal side flaps have oppositely directed tongues adapted to engage each other for locking said longitudinal side flaps in folded-back position.

5. A wrapping as claimed in claim 1 wherein an outer cover is provided for said buffer box.

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DAVIS T. MOORHEAD, *Primary Examiner.*