

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## MEANS FOR DEODORIZING SANITARY NAPKINS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 167—84)

This invention relates to a process for rendering sanitary pads or napkins for use during menstruation period of a disinfectant nature.

The object of this invention is to provide a process for making deodorizing and disinfecting pads, bandages or dressings.

A further object is to provide a process for impregnating a sanitary pad or napkin with a chemical compound which will react with the secretions given off during the menstrual period to completely deodorize any odors which accompany such discharges.

It is a well known fact that the secretions forming and issuing during menstruation possess an unpleasant odor which is particularly disagreeable in the summer time. Efforts have been made to impart to such pads and sanitary napkins as are used deodorizing and disinfecting properties without the use of any thing which might be of injury to the user, for example, by impregnating the pad or wrapper with chloride of mercury.

This method has a serious defect in that the material is not only poisonous and can be used in only small quantities but only partly remedied the defect in that the odor was only partly deodorized. Also the preparation of any such pads using chloride of mercury was dangerous to the makers as the dust arising during such preparation was injurious to the health of the workers.

The present invention consists in placing in the insert, pad or in the wrapper chemical compounds which undergo decomposition or alteration as a result of the presence of the menstrual secretions and volatilize, thereby destroying the odors. This odor destroying action may be effectively aided by the addition of any suitable aromatic.

To set forth a specific example of such compounds and process as above described the following is an example:

One part or layer of the inlay or pad is impregnated with sodium acetate and another part with sodium bisulphate, the pad then being placed in a wrapper, the two impregnated layers being separated by an intermediate layer. When the pad becomes moistened during the discharging period acetic acid is released through reaction, which as is well known has strong deodorizing and disinfectant properties. Ethereal oils are especially adapted as an aromatic addition, which may be used and which will evaporate slowly along with the acetic acid.

It is easily seen that the above described process has many advantages over the use of any poisonous disinfectant and both of the compounds used are non-poisonous and non-volatile which also makes the preparation of the pads very much easier and much safer for the workers.

The easy solubility and reactive power of the salts used in this process makes possible during the discharge of the secretions a continuous development of the deodorizing and disinfectant substance which in consequence of its volatility exercises its effect not only at the place of reaction but throughout the whole napkin and in this way acts as a complete deodorizer and disinfectant. It is necessary to have a reaction between the substances before the acetic acid or volatile disinfectant agent is produced so that the pad might be worn several hours without the agent losing any of its strength whatsoever while the use of any volatile agent such as chloride of mercury makes it necessary to change the napkin more often.

What is claimed as new is:—

A bandage charged with sodium acetate and sodium bisulphate normally held free of chemical combination and subject to a combined reaction in the presence of the body secretions to which the bandage is subjected.

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