Dec. 23, 1958 R. E. JACKE 2,865,769

PACKAGE FOR CRACKERS AND THE LIKE

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Fig. 1.

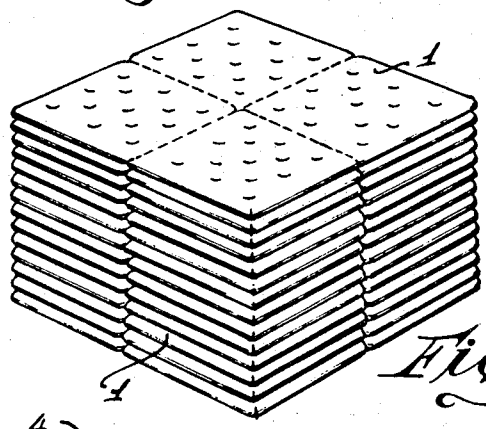


Fig. 2.

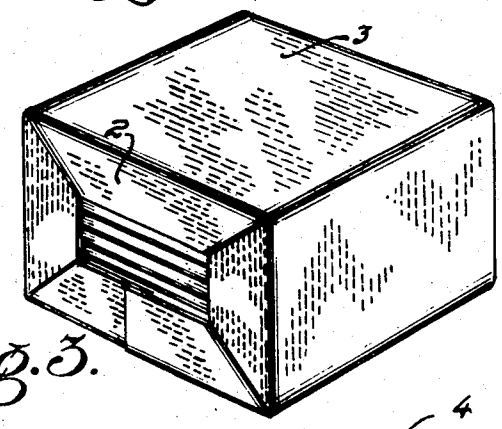
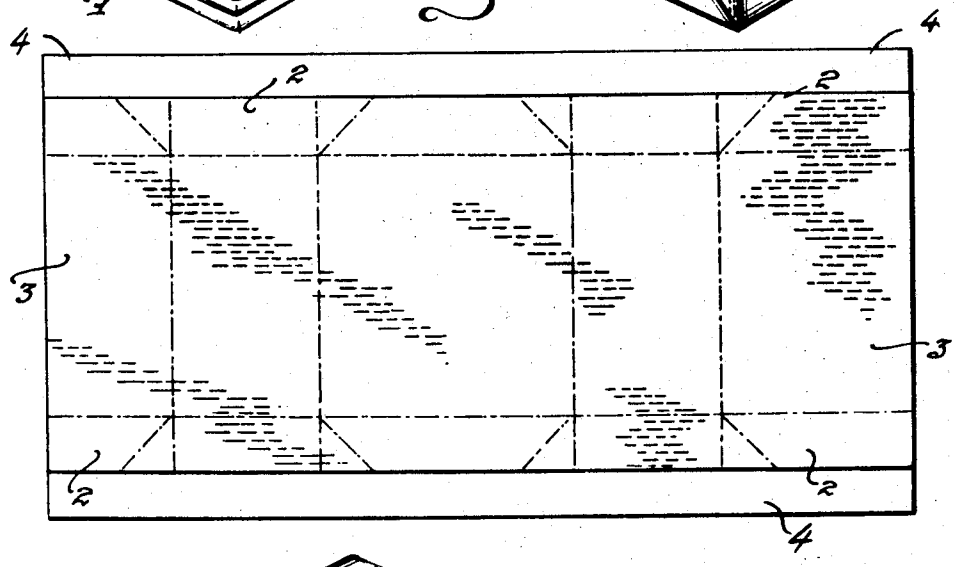


Fig. 3.



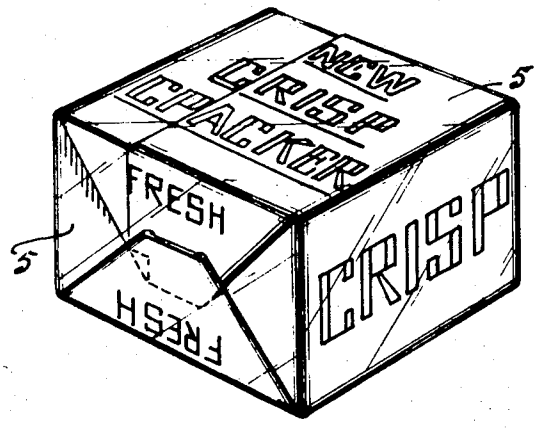


Fig. 4.

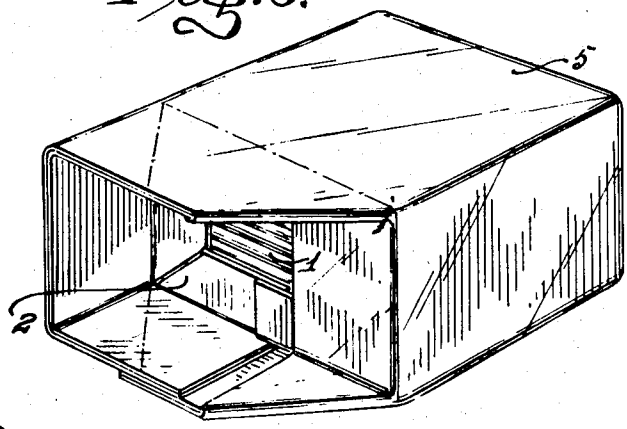
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Fig. 5.



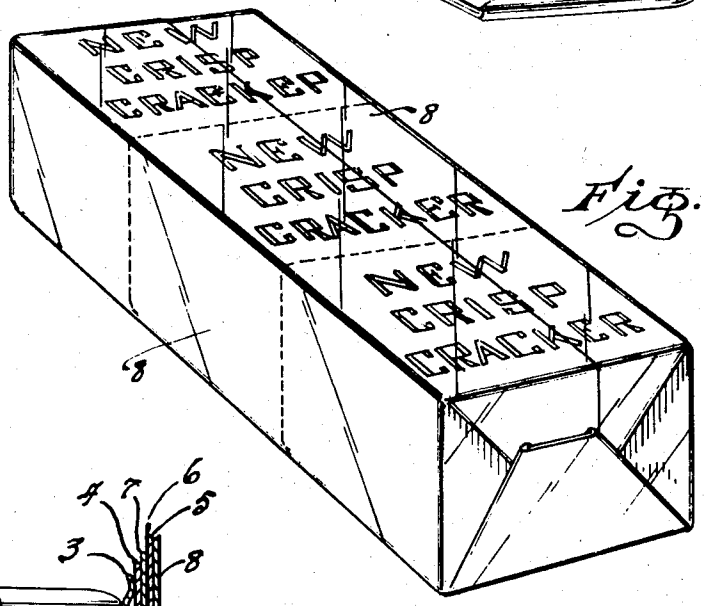


Fig. 6.

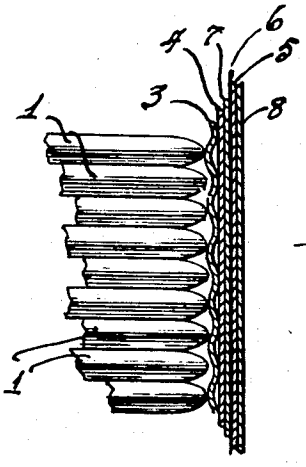


Fig. 7.

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PACKAGE FOR CRACKERS AND THE LIKE

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Application July 23, 1954, Serial No. 445,227

1 Claim. (Cl. 99—172)

The packaging of baked crackers and the like, in order that they may be protected against breakage, has presented problems for years and as a result the standard method of packing is by the use of a box of chipboard, or other hard material, which presents problems in high speed packing by machinery.

The object of the present invention is to provide a composite package of sheet material which not only will give adequate protection to the crackers and similar bakery products, but which may rapidly be applied by devices which fold and seal the sheet material about the crackers. Furthermore, by the present invention, the crackers are wrapped in a handy consumer unit enabling stacking and less cabinet space and easy dispensing from unmutilated packages. More than thus, the package is economical, while hermetically sealing the contents.

The drawing will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a stack of crackers;

Fig. 2 is a view of the stack cushioned by the first wrap of creped paper;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the cushion wrap, at the outside of which is a wax paper sheet;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the composite sheet package providing a handy consumer unit;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the package partially wrapped;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing three of the consumer units enclosed in a transparent wrap, from which the units may be individually removed; and

Fig. 7 is an enlarged fragmentary composite view showing a number of the crackers of the stack adjacent the complete wrap, including the transparent outer wrap for a plurality of the consumer units.

Referring to the drawings, in Fig. 1 there is shown at 1 a unit of stacked crackers. Each of the crackers may be broken into four separate squares approximately 2" x 2", which is customary. In Fig. 3 there is shown a cushioning wrap, preferably of stiff creped or corrugated paper as distinguished from corrugated board. This form of cushioning wrap enables it to be used in high speed wrapping machines, being fed from rolls to cutters and folding devices. The cushioning wrap is tightly folded about the stack and at the ends thereof folds 2 of the wrap 3 are brought down over opposed side edges of the stack, and the laps of the folds are preferably adhered.

Referring to Fig. 7, it will be seen that the creped paper 3, which customarily will be greaseproof, immediately contacts the crackers and it will not only serve for cushioning, but also will serve as a barrier for containing shortening or other fats in the crackers. It is unnecessary that the width of the creped paper blank shown in Fig. 3 be such that the end folds completely cover the ends of the stack of crackers, but this may be done if desired.

The partially wrapped unit shown in Fig. 2 is then enclosed for extra protection and printing copy, by means of a final wrap consisting of a plurality of sheets. Referring again to Fig. 7, the final wrap for the unit may include a sheet 4 of waxed paper, although the said sheet is not essential, the primary elements being a metallic sheet preferably of aluminum foil and indicated at 5, and on the foil is a wax or other heat sealing layer 6 covered by a sheet of porous tissue 7. In Fig. 7 the outermost sheet 8 is for enclosing a plurality of the finally wrapped units in the manner shown in Fig. 6.

Referring to Fig. 5, the heat sealing lamination consisting of the foil sheet 5 with its wax layer 6 and the innermost porous tissue sheet 7, with or without the waxed paper sheet 4, the composite being fed from rolls to suitable wrapping devices and cut off into wrap units, is wrapped about the unit shown in Fig. 2 in the manner shown in Fig. 5, and the laps of the folds are heat sealed. Hot plates or shoes associated with the machine wrapping units will apply even pressure to the laps of the folds, and wax carried by the foil sheet 5 will pass through the porous tissue and will bond the said final wrap directly to the creped paper initial wrap or to the waxed paper layer 4, when the latter is used.

As shown in Fig. 5, the outer foil surface may be smooth. However, it may be designed and embossed and may be printed as shown in Fig. 4. When the waxed paper sheet 4 is employed it may carry sufficient wax to eliminate the necessity for a heat sealing wax layer, such as the layer 6, intermediate the foil and the porous tissue layer 7, because upon heat sealing the wax of the wax paper layer will flow and serve as a bonding medium for the foil and also as a bonding medium between the waxed paper and the initial creped paper wrap. Thus a non-heat sealing layer of foil, preferably having an inner facing of tissure, or non-porous paper, may be employed when the wax paper layer 4 is used; or the wax paper layer may be eliminated and the composite foil, wax and porous tissue structure employed.

The final wrap, as shown in Fig. 4, provides a completely protected consumer unit of crackers, capable of rapid production and at low cost, eliminating the necessity of the usual chipboard boxes, and providing more convenience to the consumer.

In Fig. 6, three of the consumer units are placed side by side and enclosed in a transparent wrap such as cellophane. Inasmuch as the consumer unit may have a weight of ⅓ lb., the composite units of the wrap of Fig. 6 will weigh 1 lb., this being a desirable unit weight of soda crackers now packed in chipboard boxes. Thus the units may be conveniently removed from the composite package of Fig. 6, each being a serving, without affecting the complete protection given to the remaining crackers within the additional two wrapped units. Also each serving is in its own individual printed identification on the wrap therefor.

The composite package, Fig. 6, provides larger display value, and the abutting units, tightly wrapped afford mutual protection.

It is understood that various modifications may be made in the form and arrangement of the elements constituting the embodiments illustrated in the drawings, without departing from the spirit of the invention. For example, in many cases it is desirable that the initial wrap be applied with a waxed paper outer sheet 4 (Fig. 3) projecting beyond the length edge of the inner crepe sheet and thereby providing an overlapping heat-sealing seam for closing wrap on the stack of crackers by conventional wrapping operation. The inner crepe paper will be of such dimension to form a butt edge closure by means of this combination wrapper application. Furthermore, the unit package partly closed end panels may have folds of the wax paper fixed by standard heat-sealing practice and thereby avoid any objectionable springing action of the crepe sheet which might interfere with second unit overwrapping operation. It is highly desirable to only par-

tially cover end panels with the bulky crepe paper initial wrap, since this provides the means of conveniently opening and reclosing the package for removing only a portion of total contents. This may be performed merely by opening end folds of the outer combination wrap and springing back the folded down edge portion of the inner combination wrap.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is as follows:

A sealed non-rigid package and a cubical stack of flat frangible crackers therein, said package comprising, in combination, an internal wrap consisting of grease-proof creped paper substantially enclosing four of the six sides of the stack and butt-edged, said creped paper having a pair of relatively short folds at each of a pair of directly opposite sides thereof extending at right angles to the adjacent sides thereof and thus overlying the margins of the stack at said sides, each pair of said folds defining a central open area at each of said directly opposite sides, an intermediate wax paper sheet applied to the exterior side of said creped paper and folded completely about the creped paper which envelopes said stack, said wax paper sheet being lapped and sealed at the length ends, and an outermost member hermetically enclosing said stack and said creped and wax paper sheets, said outermost member consisting of a layer of metallic foil and an inner face layer adapted for releasable heat sealing, said outer wrap assembly being tightly folded around the internal wrap assembly and covering the same and having end folds releasably heat sealed together.

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