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A. A. ROHLFING
PACKAGING SURGICAL DRESSINGS

2,017,819

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Fig. 1.

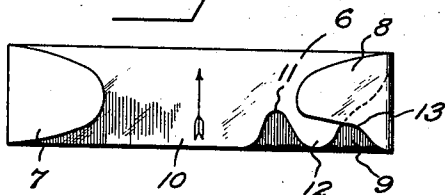


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

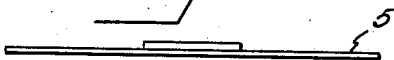
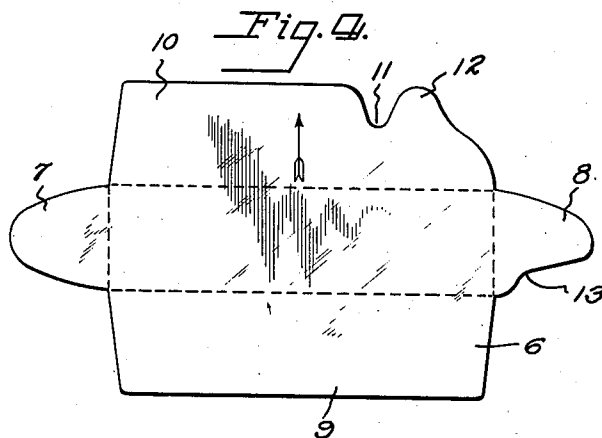


Fig. 4.



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PACKAGING SURGICAL DRESSINGS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 229—87)

It is more or less conventional practice to enclose goods or commodities directly or in package form in a protecting wrapper formed of sheeted regenerated cellulose, glassine or other substantially transparent material.

It is desirable, and it is the problem of the instant case, to employ such a protective wrapper in connection with surgical goods and particularly single units in the form of first-aid dressings of the type in which a strip of adhesive material carries medially thereof a soft absorbent pad or compress. Such dressings are prepared and packed under aseptic environment conditions and it is essential that they reach the consumer and be applied in a clean and sterile state, which means that there must be no promiscuous handling of the dressing such as is calculated to occur under attempts to remove the conventional wrapper, the problem being accentuated by the non-rigid character of the dressing and the fact that it offers no resistance to strain applied to the wrapper.

It is the object of the present invention to provide for the individual wrapping of bandage units so that they will be kept clean and sterile and so that, when the bandage is required for use, the wrapper may be opened to admit of removal of the bandage without the hazard or necessity of direct handling of or distortion of the bandage in the act of breaking the wrapper.

The nature, characteristic features and scope of the invention more readily will be understood from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, forming a part hereof, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a first-aid dressing having a protective wrapper embodying the improvements.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of an example of a first-aid unit, which it is desirable to protect.

Fig. 3 is an edge view thereof.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the wrapper.

As premised, the invention concerns the protective wrapping of pliant or distortionable goods, such as, for example, first-aid dressings, designated as a whole, as 5, and embodying a strip of adhesive tape carrying medially thereof a soft absorbent pad or compress. Heretofore, it has been the practice to put them up individually in waxed envelopes, the flap of which was left free to admit of easy access to the dressing. It is desirable to dispense with that practice and to completely seal the goods, but to do it in such way as will obviate the necessity of mutilating or distorting the goods in the act of opening the wrapper.

In the advancement of that idea the invention provides a wrapper generally designated 6, and which is of such dimensions that when folded it will completely shroud or envelope the goods and in a fairly snug way. The wrapper is a generally rectangular strip, preferably formed of cellulosic materials more or less transparent. There are end tabs 7 and 8 and side flaps 9 and 10. Flap 10 at one end is formed out of symmetrical by an angular and somewhat inwardly curved cut which, together with a notched area 11, results in a tongue 12. The tab 8 is formed on that side furthest removed from the flap 10 with an inwardly curved or notched area 13 for a purpose hereinafter referred to. It may here be remarked that the wrapper is cut from stock in such way that the grain of the material follows the direction of the arrow.

In practice, the goods, for example, the dressing 5, is laid on the wrapper whereupon the side flaps and the end tabs are folded and secured so as completely to enclose and aseptically seal the commodity. In this state the notch 13 of the end tab 8 cooperates with a notch 11 of flap 10 to leave the tongue 12 free and accessible as a rip member which may be availed of by pull in the direction of the arrow to tear and remove the immediately adjacent end of the wrapper in its entirety, thereby exposing a substantial portion of the goods so that it may be withdrawn by a straight pull and without distortion of any kind.

Having described the invention, I claim:—

1. A first-aid dressing and means for keeping it clean and sterile comprising an enveloping wrapper of transparent cellulosic material, said wrapper comprising a body portion having side flaps and end tabs constructed and arranged to be folded over the body portion in aseptic sealing relation, the lapping side flap and its securing end tab having cooperating notched portions establishing a tongue free to be availed of to divide the wrapper along the transverse line initiated by one of the notches.

2. A wrapper of the class described, comprising an elongated strip of transparent material having side flaps and end tabs and having the grain at right angles to the end tabs, one of the side flaps having one end bias cut and notched to define a tongue, and the adjacent end tab having a complementary notch to cooperate with said tongue to permit the latter to function as a tearing strip for removing one end of the wrapper so as to admit of direct withdrawal of the goods.

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