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W. H. SCHOLL

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TUBULAR BANDAGE APPLICATOR

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FIG. 1

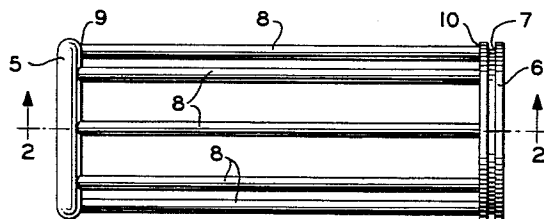


FIG. 2

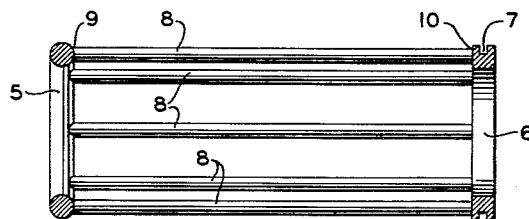
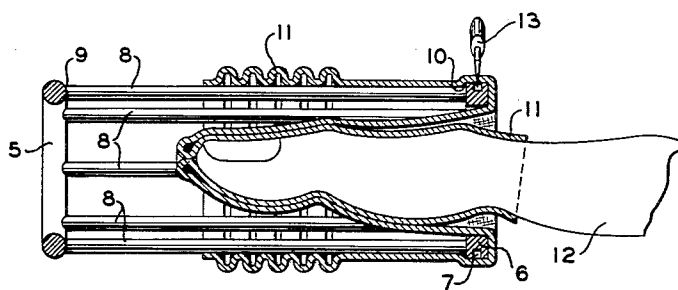


FIG. 3



INVENTOR.
WILLIAM H. SCHOLL

BY

E. J. Cox
ATTORNEY

1

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TUBULAR BANDAGE APPLICATOR

William H. Scholl, London, England, assignor to The Scholl Mfg. Co., Inc., New York, N. Y., a corporation of New York

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4 Claims. (Cl. 128—157)

My invention relates to applicators for tubular band-

ages. Heretofore considerable difficulty has been encountered in separating tubular bandage from its applicator when a considerable reserve quantity of bandage is bunched or held on the applicator therefor.

The objects of my improvement is to provide an applicator which may be used to apply a tubular bandage to an extremity of the human body such as the arm, leg, finger or head and after the application of such bandage facilitate the cutting of the bandage from the applicator.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the specifications and drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a longitudinal side elevation of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a cross section of my invention taken along line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view of the applicator shown in Fig. 2 but with a bandage implaced over a finger and showing the cutting operation.

Referring to the drawings, 5 is an annular ring at one end of the applicator and 6 is an annular ring having a channel 7 or slot in its outer surface or periphery, said channel running unbroken around the entire perimeter to form an indentation therein, although it is within the scope of my invention that channel 7 may only extend partially around the perimeter of ring 6.

The purpose of slot 7 is to provide an indentation wherein a cutting tool, such as a scalpel, may be inserted in order to sever a bandage covering said slot, as will later be explained.

The rings 5 and 6 are joined to each other by a series of longitudinal bars 8, by welding, brazing or otherwise adequately affixing them so that the entire structure has rigidity and forms a substantially open cylinder.

The bars 8 are preferably made of lesser cross sectional area or diameter than the annular rings 5 and 6 and positioned so that ridges or indentations 9 and 10 are formed at the ends of the applicator, for the purpose of assisting in the retention of tubular bandage 11 which may be bunched on the applicator and stored thereon before or after sterilization.

Operation

If a finger is to be bandaged, the applicator is loaded, by threading, with tubular gauze bandage 11 so that the bandage when bunched on the applicator is held thereon by the ridges 9 and 10. Next the applicator is slipped over the finger 12 and a small amount of its end pulled off the ring 6 and taped or otherwise held on the finger 12. The applicator is then withdrawn from the finger to its end where it may be tied or drawn together in any suitable manner and the applicator again slipped over the

2

finger as far as is necessary after which a scalpel 13, razor blade, scissors or other cutting instrument is sliced through the bandage 11 into the channel 7 and run around the ring 6 in said channel to cleanly cut off the bandage after which the applicator may be removed and is instantly ready for another bandaging operation.

It must be borne in mind that when larger extremities than the finger are to be bandaged, larger sizes of applicator are used but all are constructed in the same manner; also ring 5 may be made similar to ring 6 so that it will make no difference which end of the applicator is used since both ends will offer the cutting channel 7. If scissors are the only implement to be used the slot 7 need not completely extend around the periphery of ring 6 since the slot might be used to start the cutting operation.

Other changes in my invention may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope of my invention in which I claim:

1. In a tubular bandage applicator of the character described, annular rings connected together by longitudinal members to form a partially open cylinder, a cutting slot in one of said annular rings where bandage retained on said cylinder may be partially removed from said cylinder and severed by means of a sharp instrument inserted into said cutting slot.

2. In a tubular bandage applicator of the character described, a pair of annular rings connected together by longitudinal members to form a substantially open cylinder, said longitudinal members having lesser cross sectional area than said annular rings and positioned to form a ridge at their juncture with said annular rings, a cutting slot on the outside of one of said annular rings whereby a quantity of bandage retained on said cylinder may be partially removed and severed by means of a sharp instrument inserted into said cutting slot.

3. In a tubular bandage applicator of the character described, a plurality of annular rings joined together by longitudinal bars to form a substantially open cylinder, one of said annular rings having a channel in its periphery, said cylinder adapted to have threaded over its exterior a tubular bandage whereby a bodily extremity may be axially inserted within said cylinder and a portion of said bandage transferred from said cylinder to said extremity and said bandage severed along said channel.

4. In a tubular bandage applicator of the character described, a pair of annular rings joined together by a plurality of longitudinal bars to form a substantially open cylinder, one of said annular rings having a channel in its periphery, said cylinder adapted to have threaded over its exterior a tubular bandage whereby a bodily extremity may be axially inserted within said cylinder and a portion of said bandage transferred from said cylinder and said extremity and said bandage severed along said channel.

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