Feb. 18, 1941. R. J. NEBEL 2,232,260

SPECIAL PACKAGE

Filed July 19, 1937

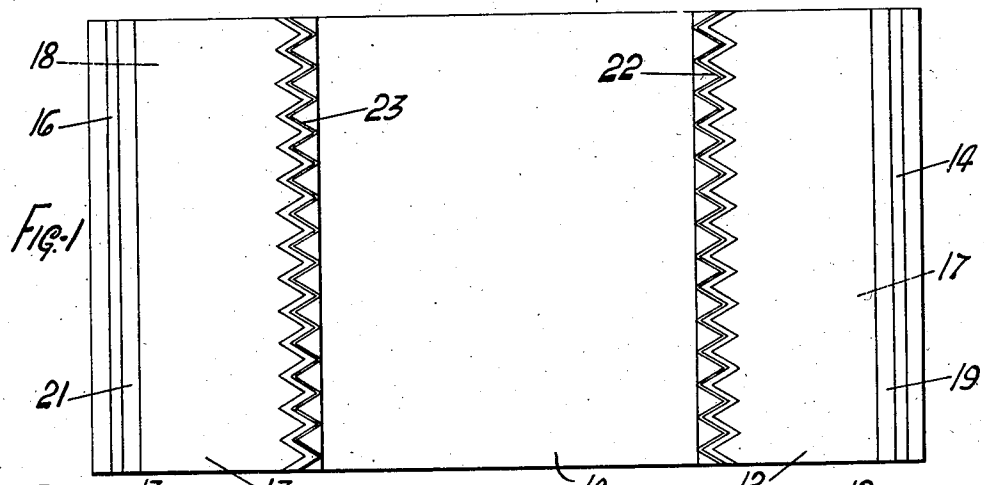


FIG.-1

FIG.-2

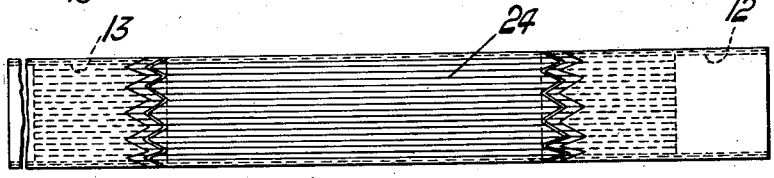


FIG.-3

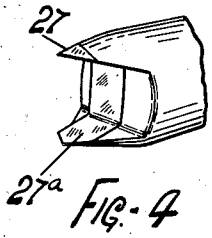


FIG.-4

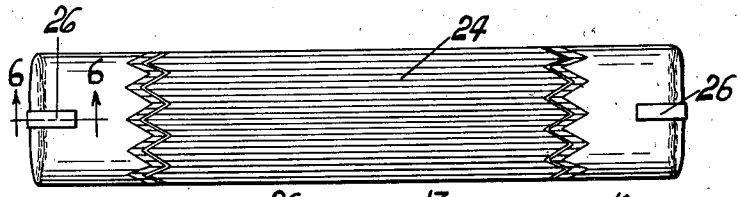


FIG.-5

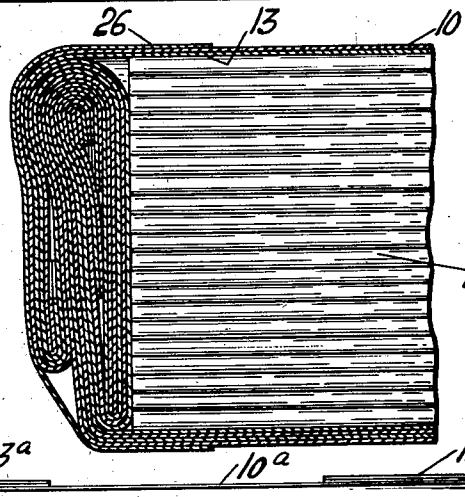
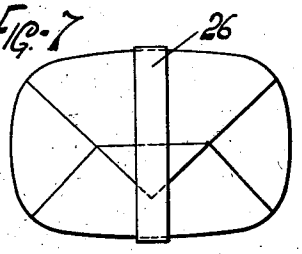


FIG.-6

FIG.-8

FIG.-7



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1 Claim. (Cl. 229—87)

This invention relates to a package and to a wrapper for forming the same, as well as to the art of packaging material such, for example, as edible commodities, especially those having relatively hard ends or other projections which tend to puncture or tear cellulosic film. Spaghetti is representative of materials of this general class, and, therefore, it has been selected for the purposes of illustration. While these commodities may be sold advantageously in sealed packages having a transparency through which the contents may be displayed, yet, if in handling or otherwise the wrapper is torn or punctured, as frequently happens, a prospective purchaser may refuse to accept the package. This damage to the wrapper usually occurs when some of the contents become dislodged from their proper positions and have their end edges projected sharply against the enclosing wrapper. The usual package formed solely of cellulosic film is not capable of adequately resisting the strain produced in this manner, nor is the usual package of cellulosic film capable of concealing damaged or uneven end portions of the contents thereof.

The purposes of this invention are to provide a wrapper which may be made of cellulosic film and formed into a package adapted to withstand stresses tending to rupture or tear the film, such as those stresses caused by shifting or disarrangement of contents of the class described, so that the wrapper may retain its imperforate character even under these rather peculiar and severe conditions.

The invention also provides a wrapper which may advantageously and conveniently be embellished by printing appropriate decorations thereon, whereby said decorations are not only brilliantly presented without danger of contaminating the contents of the package but also act to mask uneven, broken, or otherwise unattractive ends of the contents which might otherwise detract from the salability of the package.

A further object of the invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient method of enwrapping commodities of the class described into a firm package adapted to hold the contents securely in an orderly arrangement in which they may be attractively displayed through a transparent area of the wrapper.

The features of the invention are illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a wrapper;

Fig. 2 is an edge view of the wrapper shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a side elevation illustrating the wrapper formed into an open ended tube encompassing a bundle of spaghetti;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one end of a partially completed package, illustrating the manner in which the ends may be folded;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the completed package;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is an end view of the completed package; and

Fig. 8 is a view similar to Fig. 2, but illustrating a modified form of wrapper.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention, as shown in Figs. 1 to 7 of the drawing, the wrapper (Figs. 1 and 2) comprises a sheet 10 of fiberless cellulosic material, preferably regenerated cellulose sheeting or like sheeting having substantially the same or very similar characteristics. Along the opposite end edges of the wrapper narrower sheets 12 and 13 of this material are arranged to overlie the wrapper proper to provide superposed plies along the end areas of the wrapper. Conveniently the strips 12 and 13 may be formed separately and attached to the sheet 10 in any suitable manner, as by strips of adhesive 14 and 16 arranged near the outer edges of the sheet 10, leaving the opposed surfaces of these superposed plies otherwise free and unattached. Instead of forming the sheets 10, 12 and 13 separately, they may all be formed as part of one integral sheet as shown in Fig. 8, wherein the superposed plies are provided by forming the sheet 10^a of greater width and then folding over the ends thereof to provide the plies 12^a and 13^a.

In all other respects the wrapper shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 8 have the same features of construction and they may be utilized in the same manner to form a package. The modification shown in Figs. 1 and 2 is the preferred form, however, since it permits the use of narrower webs of material. Further, the relative stiffness of the edges in the preferred form reduces the tendency of the plies to wrinkle and assists in the manipulation of the wrapper so that a neat package is more easily formed.

In order to add to the general appearance and sales appeal of packages formed from these wrappers and to mask uneven or broken ends of the contents thereof, the sheets 10 or 10^a are decorated, preferably by printing while the sheet is still in the web and before the plies 12 and 13 are attached to the sheet 10 (Fig. 1) or before the plies 12^a and 13^a are folded over the sheet 10^a (Fig. 8). These printed decorations, or

masks, are illustrated as comprising substantially opaque bands of color 17 and 18 extending from the narrow unprinted areas 19 and 21 adjacent the edges of the wrapper to the inner decorative edges shown at 22 and 23, and are usually applied to the under surface of the sheet so that the coloring shows through the transparent film and its appearance is improved by the sheen given thereby to the printed areas. As illustrated in Fig. 2, the ink 20, which forms the color bands 17 and 18, adheres to the sheet 10 but is preferably completely covered by the plies 12 and 13. Thus the plies 12 and 13 act not only as necessary reinforcements for the ends of the wrapper but also as slip sheets to prevent any offsetting of the ink 20 onto the contents of the package.

It will be noted from the foregoing and in Fig. 1 that the areas 19 and 21 adjacent the edges of the wrapper are left uncolored. The uncolored areas 19 and 21 thereby permit the plies 12 and 13 to be securely attached to the sheet 10 and the effect of strips of adhesive 14 and 16 is not adversely affected by the ink 20.

It will be evident from the foregoing that the coloring of these decorative masking bands may be translucent as well as opaque, and that various color combinations may be used as desired. The intermediate portion of the wrapper, that is, the area between the colored bands in the illustrated embodiment, is preferably left uncolored or transparent in order to provide a window through which the contents of the package may be displayed.

In forming a spaghetti package with wrappers of this kind, a bundle of spaghetti 24 is placed on the wrapper when the latter is laid out flat as shown in Fig. 1. The spaghetti is arranged so that the ends thereof extend above and part way across the superposed plies 12 and 13. Then the upper and lower edges of the wrapper, as viewed in Fig. 1, are brought together and tightly sealed, either in an overlapping relationship, or by means of a sealed confectioner's fold. This forms an open ended tube as shown in Fig. 3. The package may then be completed by folding in the side portions of the extending ends of this tube, as illustrated in Fig. 4, and then folding over the remaining upper and lower extending end portions 27 and 27a. These infolded ends may be sealed in any approved manner as is well understood in this art. Preferably an end strip 26 (Figs. 5–7) of regenerated cellulose or the like, is sealed across the infolded ends to complete the package.

Many of the advantages of this invention may be observed from Fig. 6. A package for a commodity, such as spaghetti, is subjected to conditions which are not generally encountered. A bundle of spaghetti comprises essentially a bundle of slender sticks, each of which is movable longitudinally relative to the others, and each of these sticks has relatively hard and sharp ends which are capable of puncturing the ends of the usual package of regenerated cellulose, and this frequently happens. It has been found, however, that by providing a wrapper and forming a package as disclosed herein, the sticks of spaghetti no longer puncture the wrapper but remain effectively sealed within the package. The arrangement of the superposed plies for the improved end construction not only provides additional strength to resist any tendency of the contents to puncture or tear the ends, but also provides, in effect, a pad for each end of the package so as to cushion and thereby minimize the effects of jars and shocks incident to handling.

Furthermore, the exterior of the wrapper is continuously smooth and glossy, and the attractive appearance of the package is not marred by wrinkles caused by bands of adhesives or by the dull surface presented by inks capable of being used on cellulosic films.

While the preferred forms of the invention and the best known manner and process of making and using the same have been illustrated and described herein, it will be understood that various modifications will occur to those skilled in the art when informed by this specification, and that the invention is not limited except as indicated by the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

An elongated package wrapper for containing a plurality of loose sticks such as uncooked spaghetti or the like, the package wrapper comprising an outer sheet of transparent cellulosic film of a width greater than the length of the sticks enwrapped to permit the outer portions of the side margins of said outer sheet to project beyond the ends of the sticks, bands of ink printed on the inner surface of the two opposite side margins of said outer sheet, inner supplemental sheets overlying the printed side margins of said outer sheet, the outer edges of said supplemental sheets being substantially flush with the side edges of said outer sheet and adhesively secured thereto to provide side edge portions on said outer sheet stiffer than the body of said outer sheet, and the remaining portions of said supplementary sheets being in unattached slidable contact with the inner surface of said outer sheet, the said projecting portions of the outer sheet and the portion of the supplemental sheets overlying said projecting portions being interfolded at each end of the package to form an end wall cushion for the package comprised of a plurality of superimposed plies of the outer sheet and the inner supplemental sheet.

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