F B. OLDHAM.

WRAPPER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 18, 1916.

1,381,425. Patented June 14, 1921.

FIG. 1.

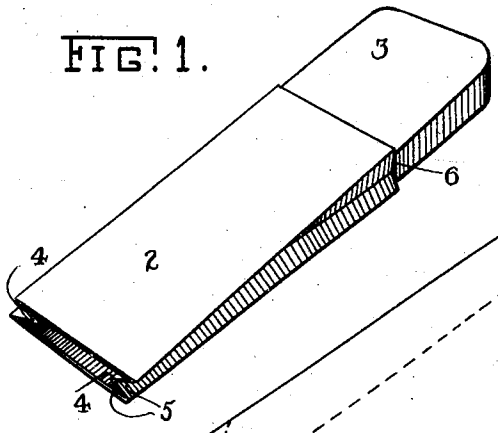


FIG. 2.

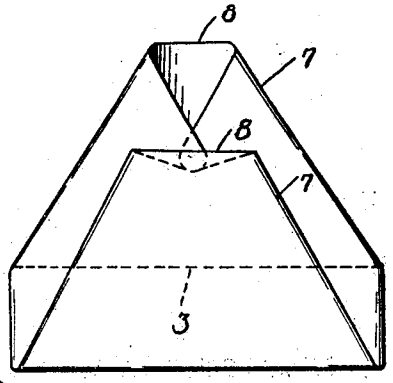
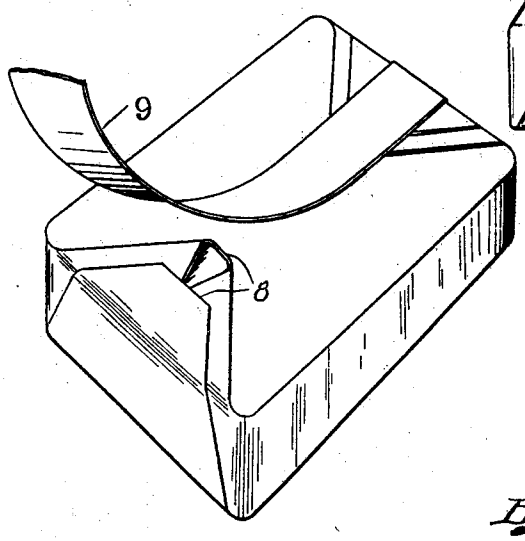


FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.



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WRAPPER.

1,381,425. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 14, 1921.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, F BERT OLDHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Auburn, county of Androscoggin, State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wrappers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a novel pack and particularly to a wrapping tube of such construction and design as to facilitate the wrapping of a body such for instance as a sardine can.

Many types of articles are now marketed either in paper envelops or glass containers or card board containers or in cans and frequently the latter are provided with ornate finishers to enhance the appearance of the stock and carry out particular characteristics of marks or labels and these articles are commonly disposed of from stock wrapped in a light paper sheathing or wrapper, and at the present time the purchasing public has been educated to expect that many articles are thus commonly marketed. The wrapper is frequently applied to the vessel or container by a wrapping process in which a piece of paper is folded around the article or container and the projecting end portions of the wrapper are then again folded over the ends of the package in such a manner as to form a neat article and at once serve to protect the finish or surface of the wrapped article from being soiled by being handled or injured, and also is protected against corrosion or rust.

According to the present manufacturing or marketing methods the wrapping of the body or container such as for instance a sardine can, when this work is done by hand is under present conditions practically prohibitive in this country, though it is a common practice in foreign countries and the goods shipped into the United States so wrapped.

It is one of the objects of the present invention to provide a pack in which the article or body to be protected is efficiently covered by a wrapper in the form of a tube which is of greater length than the article contained and is of approximately the same cross-sectional area, and has for its further object to provide for an economical and efficient wrapping of the article or body or container to be wrapped and to produce a pack which will be attractive in appearance and substantial.

It is therefore a feature of my invention to provide a wrapping tube which preferably is flattened longitudinally and has its longitudinal edges tucked inwardly throughout its length, forming a shallow infold and which when an article to be wrapped such as a sardine can is inserted in the end of the tube, the side faces or panels of the latter readily spread or open and after the can has been positioned intermediately between the ends of the tube the partly opened overhanging portions of the tube have substantially V-shaped inwardly directed side grooves which are automatically produced by the semi-opened condition of the marginal tucks of the wrapper. These tucked edges are adapted to clearly facilitate the operation of preparing the overhanging portions of the tube at each end of the can to be exactly folded in opposed or overlapping relation upon one another and then over the end of the can.

The invention therefore consists of a pack consisting of a container preferably of rectangular cross section, and a wrapping tube for the container or can which is of greater length than the can and of approximately equal cross-sectional area, the tube being provided with longitudinal inwardly tucked portions which are folded in pairs toward each other across each end of the container or can and forming tongues or tangs which are folded one upon the other and then laid over the end of the can, the folded tongues or tangs being sealed in folded position by a label or other suitable sealing expedient.

A preferred form of the invention and a method of wrapping the tube about the container is described in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawing herein.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a wrapper being adjusted upon a can and showing the partly expanded end of the tube in placing the can, while the opposite end of the tube is being slightly opened and showing the inwardly directed longitudinal tucks.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing a further step in the method of folding the wrapping to be placed about the inclosed container which is illustrated in dotted lines.

Fig. 3 is an end view of the wrapping tube with its end tongues or tangs folded perpendicularly to the end of the container in the second step of the folding operation.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the wrap-

ping tube as substantially finally folded down upon the inclosed can and showing the application of a sealing label.

In practising my invention, I prefer to employ a wrapper in the form of a piece of pliable material of tubular form illustrated at 2 Fig. 1, the tube preferably being of a durable, attractive, oiled paper and of a length considerably greater than the length of the can 3 which is to be wrapped. The wrapper 2 is in the form of a flattened tube having its longitudinal sides folded inwardly to form inwardly directed tucks or folds 4, the side forming portions 5 of which are approximately of a width of about one-half the thickness of the can 3 so that when the latter is inserted as in Fig. 1 into one end of the tube, the fold 4 expands and forms a side portion 6 about equal in thickness to the thickness of the can. After the latter has been positioned intermediately between the ends of the top and bottom of the tube 2 the overhanging ends as shown in Fig. 2 may then be folded together and then upwardly over the ends of the container as shown in Fig. 3.

One of the important features of the present invention is the provision of the inwardly directed tucks 4 which serve when the wrapping tube has been adjusted upon the can 3 in its proper position to automatically form V-shaped panels or grooves between flaring sides 5 which act as guides for the fingers of the operator to facilitate the inwardly folding action of the side portions 5 as shown in Fig. 2, to form upper and lower substantially triangular tongues 7—7 above and below the inturned ends 6 of the sides 5. After the overhanging end portions of the tube have been folded to the positions indicated in Fig. 2 and the ends 6 brought into overlapping position across the end of the can, the upper and lower tongues or tangs 7—7 may then readily be folded upwardly with neat straight edges sharply angular to each other as shown in Fig. 3 with a position perpendicular to the length of the tube on the tangs, then folded over the corner of the can 3 as shown in Fig. 4 in superposed relation at each end of the can where they may be readily and neatly sealed down by the application of a label 9 of any suitable form and proportion, one type of which is illustrated in Fig. 4.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided a pack which is extremely neat in appearance, is substantially air tight and practically water proof so far as the purpose in hand makes it necessary and the can is well protected and when the tube is of a material which is translucent the decoration on the can or its color may be discerned through the wrapper and chiefly it will be observed that I have provided a wrapper which being prepared in large quantities in the form of a complete tube and subdivided into sections of the requisite length determined by the size of the can, may be furnished economically, and may be applied either manually or mechanically to the can to be covered and finally sealed.

What I therefore claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A wrapper for a substantially flat article consisting of a tube having infolded tucks automatically expansible by the insertion of the article to be wrapped to form finger guiding grooves in the overhanging portions of the wrapper at both ends of the article to be wrapped.

2. A wrapper for a substantially rectangular article consisting of a tube of greater length than the article to be wrapped and having infolded tucks automatically expansible by the endwise insertion of the article to be wrapped to form finger guiding grooves of approximately V-form in the overhanging portions of the wrapper at both ends of the article to be wrapped, and having said overhanging portions infolded and returned upon and secured to one face of the wrapper.

3. A wrapper for a substantially flat article consisting of a tube of greater length than the article to be wrapped, and having an intermediate article inclosing portion conformable to the sides of the said article and having infolded tucks automatically expansible by the insertion of the article to be wrapped to form finger guiding grooves in the article, the side panels of the wrapper adapted to overlap the ends of the article with said overhanging portions folded over both ends of the article and sealed to the intermediate inclosing portion of the wrapper.

4. A tubular wrapper for a substantially rectangular relatively flat article comprising an open ended sheath having infolded longitudinal tucks automatically expansible by the endwise insertion of the article to be wrapped to form finger guiding grooves in the overhanging portions of the sheath at both ends of said article, the inturned ends of the side panels of the sheath being infolded and overlapping the ends of the article to be wrapped, and held in position by said overhanging portions.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

F BERT OLDHAM.

Witnesses:

CORINNE MCFARLAND,

NELLIE B. RICKERS.