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J. R. CROCKFORD

2,298,752

TAMPON

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Fig. 1.

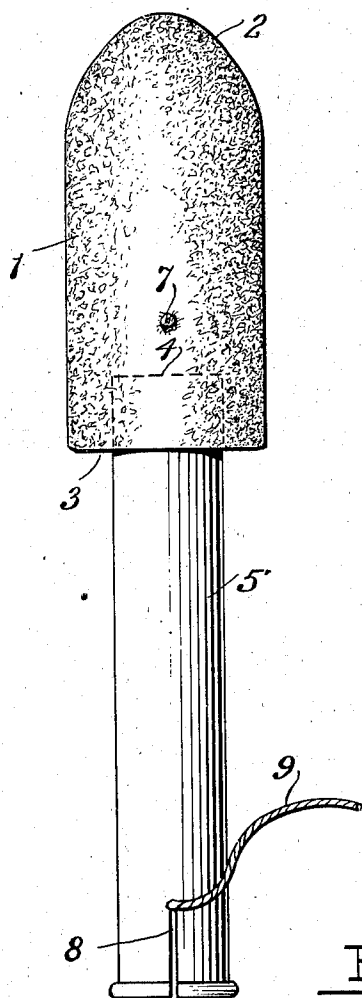


Fig. 2.

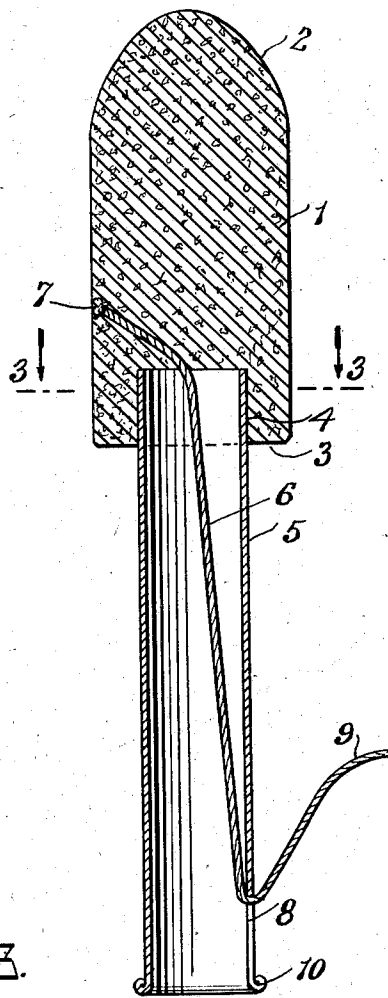
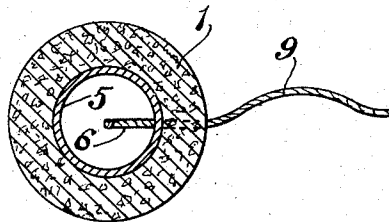


Fig. 3.



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2,298,752

TAMPON

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Application April 18, 1941, Serial No. 389,099

1 Claim. (Cl. 128—263)

This invention relates to tampons and more particularly to the type employed during the menstrual period. The primary object of the present invention is to provide a tampon, and an applicator therefor by which the tampon is inserted in the body orifice with ease and convenience.

More particularly, the invention contemplates the provision of a tampon composed of an absorbent material, such as cellulose or viscose sponge, a tampon of this character being more fully described and claimed in my co-pending application, Serial No. 341,811, or of some other absorbent material, and an applicator attached to the tampon and preferably located at and extending from the rear end thereof, whereby the applicator may be employed to urge the tampon into proper position in the body orifice and, when the tampon has reached the proper position, be separated and removed from the tampon without shifting the position of the placed tampon or dislodging it.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a tampon and attached applicator, constructed in accordance with the invention; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the same; and Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrows.

The tampon is shown at 1, the same preferably, but not necessarily, being composed of cellulose or viscose sponge material, and being generally cylindrical in shape, having a conical front end 2 and a relatively flat rear end 3. The applicator, shown at 5, preferably consists of a section of tubing of cardboard, Celluloid or any other suitable material, having one end snugly fitted into a relatively shallow recess or depression 4 formed in the rear end of the tampon. The diameter of the recess or depression 4 is such that the frictional engagement of the applicator with the wall of the recess serves to hold the applicator attached to the tampon, yet at the proper time and when the tampon has been pushed into position within the body orifice, to permit the tampon to be withdrawn without shifting the position of or dislodging the tampon. It is also to be noted that the diameter of the tampon is greater than that of the applicator so that the projecting portion of the rear end 4 of the tampon constitutes an annular shoulder around which the vaginal wall embraces and serves to hold the tampon against displacement while the applicator is being drawn away.

The tampon is provided with a withdrawal string or pull-cord 6, the same being provided at one end with a knot 7 embedded in the body of the tampon and preferably below the surface of the same, thereby holding the cord against

displacement, and said cord extends out of the rear end of the tampon and passes through the interior of the applicator. The outer or free end of the applicator is provided with a reinforcing bead 10 and extending through the same and inwardly therefrom for a short distance is a slot 8 through which the cord 6 is passed. The cord frictionally engages the sides of the slot, the free end 9 of the cord extending laterally from the slot, as clearly indicated in Figs. 1 and 2.

The cord 6 is drawn taut and since it is held in the slot 8, the same works in co-operation with the snug fit of the applicator within the recess 4, to hold the applicator attached to the tampon until the same is required for use. When it is desired to insert the tampon in position, the free end 9 of the cord is drawn out of the slot 8, and the tampon held by the applicator is forced into position in the body orifice. When properly positioned therein, the applicator is withdrawn. This can be easily done without dislodging the position of the tampon, since the tampon is of larger diameter than the applicator and it will be gripped and held by the vaginal walls while the applicator has its end drawn out of the recess 4 and is pulled away from the tampon.

While I have herein suggested that the applicator be held in place by means of both the snug fit of the end of the same in the recess in the tampon and the tension of the withdrawal cord, it is possible that the applicator can be held in position by either of the means above mentioned. It is also possible to omit the recess from the end of the tampon and hold the applicator in position merely by the cord. These and other modifications are entirely possible without departing from the spirit of the invention.

With the arrangement disclosed, handling or touching of the tampon is avoided, the insertion of the same is greatly facilitated, and the removal of the applicator from the tampon may be easily effected, without dislodging or displacing the tampon.

What I claim is:

A tampon consisting of a substantially cylindrical section of sponge-like cellulosic material having a recessed rear end, a tube of less diameter than the tampon having an open end fitted into the recessed rear end of the tampon, a withdrawal cord on the tampon extending through the tube, the tube being notched, the notched portion of said tube engaging the cord and holding it tensioned to thereby cause said cord to hold the tube and tampon together in operative relation.

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