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2,371,985

WRAPPED ARTICLE AND METHOD OF WRAPPING THE SAME

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Fig. 1

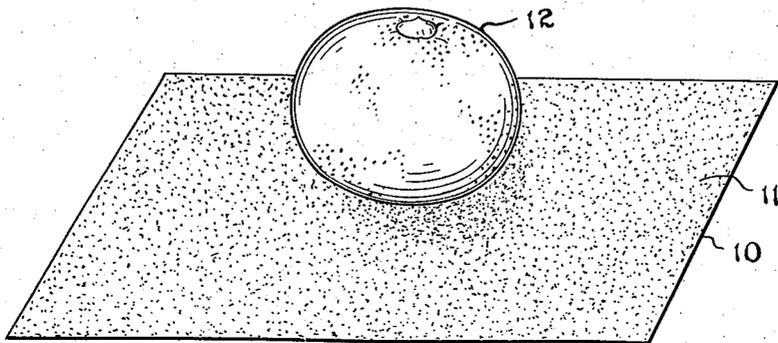


Fig. 2

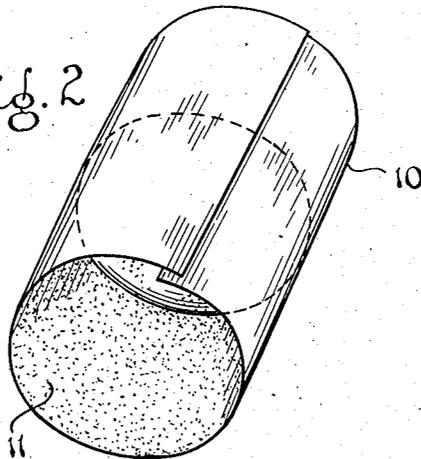
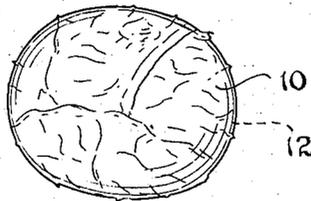


Fig. 3



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WRAPPED ARTICLE AND METHOD OF WRAPPING THE SAME

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Application February 8, 1943, Serial No. 475,188

4 Claims. (Cl. 206—46)

This present invention relates to packaged moisture containing articles and to procedure for producing the same.

Heretofore, many articles usually purchased in grocery stores such as meat, fillets, chops, cuts, and steaks thereof, whole fish, fillets, and steaks thereof, fowl or game, whole, or joints thereof, citrus fruits, tomatoes, grapes, cakes of soap and many other articles containing moisture which is present at and may evaporate from the surface thereof have been provided with envelopes or wrappers of various sheet materials of the nature of waxed paper, Cellophane, Pliofilm, Koroseal and other tough flexible transparent or translucent materials, in some cases, as in the case of Cellophane bags or envelopes, being sealed to prevent loss of moisture from the packaged article.

Sealing of such bags or envelopes necessitates the use of adhesives applied locally to the bag or envelope along flaps or margins thereof and involves manufacturer of the bag or envelop, insertion of the moisture containing article therein, and finally sealing by the use of adhesives or adhesive tapes applied at the mouths of the bags or envelopes.

It has been discovered by the present inventor that sheet materials such as Cellophane, Pliofilm, Koroseal, etc., which are tough, flexible, and transparent and are coated with water-repellent, permanently-tacky, pressure-sensitive, clear adhesives of a known type applied over one face thereof and which materials are on the market as "Scotch" tape or other trade names are capable of highly advantageous use as wrappers for the previously enumerated articles. While this sheet material is strongly adhesive to itself wherever laps, crimps, or folds of the material are pressed together with at least one layer of the adhesive coating between the abutting faces of the sheet material, because of the character of the surfaces of the article such as those enumerated and the presence of more or less moisture therein, the tacky water-repellent adhesive will not adhere strongly, and in many cases will not adhere at all to surfaces of the articles against which it may be pressed, and will peel readily away from the articles when the wrappers of such material are being removed.

In carrying out the present invention, tough flexible transparent material having a clear adhesive coating of the kind described is merely wrapped and lapped in any convenient way about the article with the adhesive face against the article and projecting margins thereof are crimped or folded to bring adhesive faces of the

wrapper together or in lapping relation to the non-adhesive surfaces of the wrapper so as to hold the wrapper snugly about the article completely enveloping it and completely sealing it against the loss of moisture and at the same time excluding all but very slight quantities of air about the article which may inevitably be entrapped.

Articles such as citrus fruits, meats, fish, fowl, game, tomatoes, grapes, etc., which are so packaged, especially if kept refrigerated, keep substantially all of their original water content, vitamins, and palatability without desiccation, putrefaction or decay and for indefinite periods of time, and do so without requiring the use of ice refrigeration. Dry refrigerants, such as dry ice, mechanical refrigeration, etc., have no appreciable dehydrating or other effect upon the contents of the packages.

Fillets of meats, fish, etc., have heretofore had ordinary sheet wrappers of Cellophane or the like applied about them but have required ice refrigeration for their preservation. By use of the present invention, this expensive and troublesome icing may be avoided, dry refrigeration being entirely satisfactory.

The packages are, of course, complete germ and vermin proof, and thus not only preserve the moisture within the article, but prevent ingress of dirt and foreign matters of all kinds.

The packages, being transparent permit handling as well as visual inspection to note the weight, "feel," color, and texture of the packaged contents without danger of contamination.

For purposes of illustration of the invention, there is shown in the accompanying drawing an orange being packaged in accordance with the present invention.

Of the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 illustrates a sheet of the material used and on the adhesive face of which has been placed an orange.

Figure 2 shows application of the wrapper about the orange with over-lapping margins adhesively secured, and

Figure 3 shows the orange after the wrapper has been completely applied by crimping the projecting portions of the wrapper snugly about the orange.

In the drawing the numeral 10 designates a sheet of the tough flexible transparent material and 11, the layer of clear adhesive on one face thereof. The orange is indicated at 12.

As shown in Figure 1 the orange 12 may be placed on the adhesive coated face of sheet 10,

which may then be snugly wrapped about the orange as indicated in Figure 2 with over-lapping margins of the sheet pressed together, and finally the projecting portions of the wrapper are crimped and pressed snugly against the surface of the orange, the folds or crimps adhering to each other.

To remove the wrapper it may be cut and readily peeled from the orange, or a thread or band (not shown) as is well-known in the art of packaging, may be incorporated in the wrapper, a projecting end of which may be grasped and pulled to sever the wrapper.

It will be apparent that the invention disclosed herein may be applied in the packaging of many different articles containing moisture present at their surfaces and of a surface texture such that the adhesive will not adhere to the surface of the article or will only slightly adhere. The invention is operable in this manner with many different articles of similar surface characteristics to those specifically mentioned.

Modifications of the invention may be resorted to without departing from the spirit thereof in the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An article containing moisture which is more or less present at the surface thereof and having thereon a wrapper of tough flexible transparent sheet material with a face coated with clear, permanently-tacky, pressure-responsive, water-repellant adhesive wrapped snugly about the article with the adhesive-coated face applied against the article, said wrapper being lapped and crimped or folded about the article so as snugly to encase the same with the laps and crimps or folds pressed together whereby the adhesive seals the wrapper about the article completely to seal the article therein, said adhesive having little or no adherence to the surface of the article so that it may be readily peeled therefrom to remove the wrapper, and said wrapper containing little or no air excepting that which may inevitably be entrapped during the wrapping process.

2. That method of packaging moisture-containing articles having moisture present at the surfaces thereof which comprises applying a sheet of tough flexible transparent material having a

permanently tacky, water-repellant, pressure-responsive adhesive on one face thereof about the article with said adhesive-coated face against the surface of the article and lapping and crimping or folding the wrapper snugly about the article while pressing the laps and crimps or folds together so as snugly and completely to encase the article with exclusion of all air excepting such small quantities as may be entrapped during the wrapping process.

3. An article containing moisture which is more or less present at the surface thereof and having thereon a wrapper of tough flexible transparent sheet material with a face coated with clear, permanently-tacky pressure-responsive, water-repellent adhesive wrapped snugly about the article with the adhesive-coated face applied against the article, said wrapper having its over-lapping margins adhesively secured together and then being lapped and crimped or folded about the article so as snugly to encase the same with the laps and crimps or folds pressed together whereby the adhesive seals the wrapper about the article completely to seal the article therein, said adhesive having little or no adherence to the surface of the article so that it may be readily peeled therefrom to remove the wrapper, and said wrapper containing little or no air excepting that which may inevitably be entrapped during the wrapping process.

4. The method of packaging moisture-containing articles having moisture present at the surfaces thereof which comprises applying a sheet of tough flexible transparent material having a permanently-tacky, water-repellent, pressure-responsive, adhesive on one face thereof about the article with said adhesive-coated face against the surface of the article, overlapping opposed marginal portions of the sheet and adhesively securing the overlapped portions together, and lapping and crimping or folding the wrapper snugly about the article while pressing the laps and crimps or folds together so as snugly and completely to encase the article with exclusion of all air excepting such small quantities as may be entrapped during the wrapping process.

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