

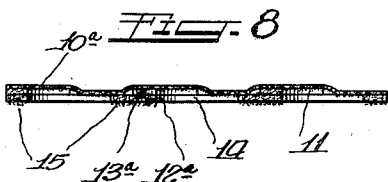
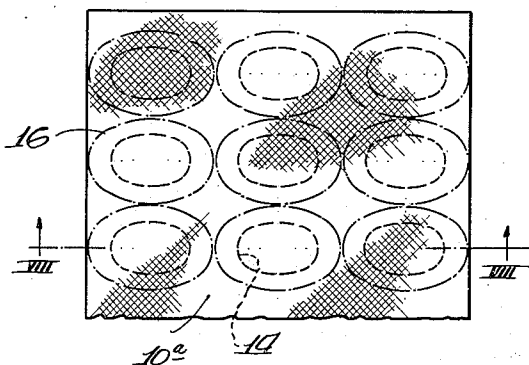
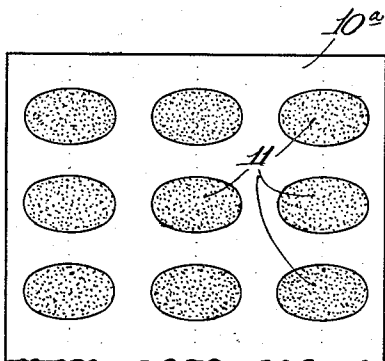
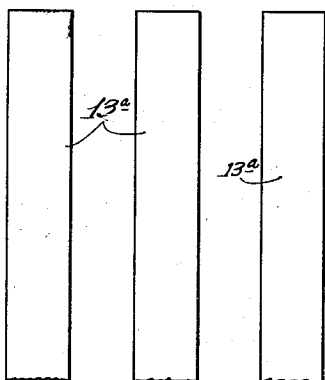
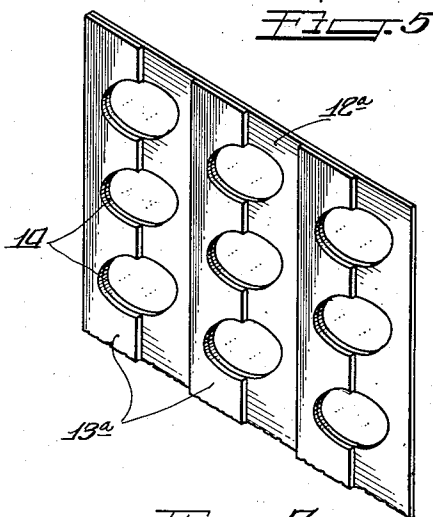
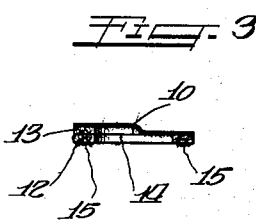
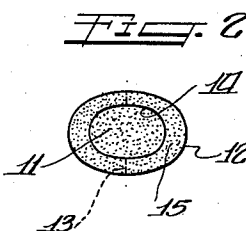
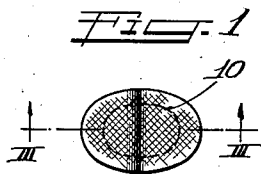
April 9, 1935.

W. M. SCHOLL

1,996,835

MEDICAL PAD

Filed Aug. 22, 1931



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by

Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,996,835

MEDICAL PAD

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Application August 22, 1931, Serial No. 558,721

3 Claims. (Cl. 154—2)

This invention relates to improvements in medical pads of the character highly desirable for use in treating corns, bunions, callouses, and various other physical ailments; and the invention also relates to an improved method of making pads of the character hereinafter described, although this invention may have other and various uses and purposes as will be apparent to one skilled in the art.

As made heretofore, medical pads of various types, including those commonly attached to the body of a user by adhesive means, were of substantially the same thickness throughout exclusive of the recess or aperture frequently provided in such pads. Of course, the major object of pads of this character is the relieving of the afflicted spot or portion from pressure, by transferring to or causing a healthy portion of the body to carry all of the pressure in the region of the afflicted area. With regard to certain portions of the body, a side of a toe for example, under certain conditions a pad of the proper thickness to relieve pressure on the afflicted spot cannot be attached to the body without discomfort due to the size of the pad, and if a pad of lesser thickness is used, then the afflicted portion is not given the proper relief and protection. Consequently, occasion often warrants the use of a pad of variable thickness, and the pads heretofore known failed to provide this feature. Another objection to pads of this character as made in the past resides in the fact that after relatively short usage, the adhesive material may be squeezed out beyond the edges of the pad and so adhere to the hosiery or other article of apparel worn by the user of the pad.

The present invention is designed to overcome the above noted as well as other defects and objections in the provision of a medical pad embodying a cushioning element varying in thickness.

It is also an object of this invention to provide a medical pad including a cushioning element of which one half is substantially twice as thick as the other half.

It is also an object of this invention to provide a medical pad so constructed that even under considerable pressure, the adhesive substance utilized in the pad will not squeeze out beyond the confines of the pad and so be in a position to adhere to articles of apparel that may be worn over the pad.

It is a still further object of this invention to provide a new and novel method of making a pad of the character set forth herein.

While some of the more salient features, char-

acteristics and advantages of the present invention have been above pointed out, others will become apparent from the following disclosures.

The invention includes these and other features of construction and combinations of parts, and method of making the invention hereinafter described, and shown in a preferred form in the drawing as more particularly indicated by the claims.

On the drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a medical pad embodying principles of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view of the pad shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view of the pad taken substantially on line III—III of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary plan view of parts used in an initial step in the making of the pads.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of the cushioning means for the pad, illustrating a further step in the construction or making of the pads, the casing not having been applied as yet.

Figure 6 is a bottom plan view of the covering material for the pads.

Figure 7 is a fragmentary top plan view of the covering applied to the structure shown in Figure 5, and illustrating the final step of the making of the pads.

Figure 8 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially as indicated by the line VIII—VIII of Figure 7.

As shown on the drawing:

In the illustrated embodiment of the present invention, as the same is seen in Figures 1 to 3, there is shown a medical pad comprising a covering 10, of any suitable material, such as cloth tape, having an adhesive undersurface 11. Attached to the covering 10 in any suitable manner, as by glue, is a cushioning element 12 of any suitable fabric, felt, sponge rubber, or equivalent material. Another piece 13 of similar cushioning material is likewise secured to the element 12, the piece 13 being of any desirable size. In the present showing this piece is substantially one-half the size of the element 12, whereby the complete cushioning element for the pad is substantially twice as thick in one portion as in the remaining portion. To provide a suitable recess for the reception of the afflicted portion of a user's body, both pieces 12 and 13 of cushioning material are apertured as at 14, the aperture not extending through the covering 10.

It will be especially noted that the adhesive undersurface 11 of the covering 10 does not ex-

tend entirely to the outer edge of this covering but terminates over the cushioning element well in from the edge thereof, whereby there is no chance for the adhesive substance to squeeze out when pressure is applied on the pad and thus be in a position to adhere to the apparel of a user (Figure 3). The cushioning element is also provided with an adhesive undersurface 15, and in this instance, the adhesive undersurface is entirely on the cushioning piece 12. This adhesive undersurface 15 may be either a strip of adhesive tape glued to the cushioning element, an adhesive coating on the cushioning element, or it may be provided in any other desired manner. As is the case with the adhesive surface 11, the adhesive surface 15 is also set in somewhat from the outer edge of the pad, so there will be no danger of any adhesive substance adhering to the apparel of a user.

It will be obvious, of course, if so desired, that the cushioning piece 12 may be disposed between the smaller cushioning piece 13 and the cover 10. In this instance, the adhesive undersurface 15 would be applied partially to the cushioning piece 12 and partially to the cushioning piece 13.

The present invention also embodies a new and novel method of making pads of the character shown in Figures 1 to 3 inclusive. Of course, in commercial production, it is advisable to simultaneously form a composite fabric construction suitable for a great number of pads, and then cut the pad from the composite structure.

With reference now to Figures 4 to 8 inclusive, it will be seen that the first step in the method of making the pads consists of the joining of a plurality of spaced strips 13^a of cushioning material, corresponding in the finished pad to the piece 13, and a sheet 12^a of cushioning material, corresponding to the piece 12 in a finished pad. Of course, the sheet 12^a completely covers one side of any desired number of spaced strips 13^a. After the joining of the sheet and strips, one side of the structure thus formed is provided with an adhesive surface 15 mentioned above, and as also pointed out hereinabove, this adhesive surface may be provided entirely on one side of the sheet 12^a, as seen in the drawing, or partially on the strips 13^a and on the sheet 12^a between the strips, depending entirely upon which side of the cushioning element structure it is desired to place the covering.

When the cushioning element structure is provided with the adhesive, the next operation is to punch apertures 14 at spaced intervals through the cushioning means. As is seen clearly in Figure 5, each aperture is punched over an edge of a strip 13^a so that the strips 13^a are notched at intervals and complete apertures are punched through the sheet 12^a. The covering of the pads is provided, in this instance, by means of a sheet 10^a of covering material, corresponding to the covering 10 shown in Figures 1 to 3 inclusive, provided at one side thereof with spots of adhesive material 11. Each of the adhesive

spots 11 is of a sufficient size to overlie an aperture 14 but not of the size of a pad. The sheet 10^a is laid over the cushioning element structure so that each spot of adhesive material 11 lies over one of the apertures 14, and then the pads are cut from the composite structure thus formed as indicated by the dotted lines 16 of Figure 7.

Of course, if the same is not desired for any reason, the covering may be left entirely off and the completed pads formed of only the cushioning element pieces 12 and 13 and a proper adhesive substance 15.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that I have provided a medical pad which, by its inherent construction, prevents the adherence of adhesive substances to articles of apparel worn by a user of the pad, and which, due to its construction, may be fitted properly to portions of the human body not capable of being properly fitted by pads of the character heretofore known. It will further be apparent that I have provided a new and novel method of making the pads, simple in performance, and resulting in an economical manufacture of the pads.

I am aware that many changes may be made and numerous details of construction may be varied through a wide range without departing from the principles of this invention, and I, therefore, do not purpose limiting the patent granted hereon otherwise than is necessitated by the prior art.

I claim as my invention:

1. The method of making medical pads, consisting of joining to a side of a sheet of cushioning material a plurality of spaced strips of cushioning material, providing the structure thus formed with an adhesive surface, and cutting said pads from the composite structure with the line of each cut crossing the edge of a strip whereby the thickness of each pad includes partially said sheet and partially said sheet and a strip.

2. The method of making a medical pad with a goodly portion thereof thicker than the remainder, consisting of joining side to side a sheet of cushioning material and a strip of cushioning material, and cutting said pad from the composite structure with the line of cut crossing the edge of said strip so that said pad includes partially the thickness of said sheet and partially the thickness of said sheet and strip.

3. The method of making medical pads, consisting of arranging strips of cushioning material in spaced relationship, laying a sheet of cushioning material over and attaching the same to said strips, providing the fabricated structure thus formed with an adhesive surface, punching apertures through the composite structure thus formed, securing a covering over said composite structure and apertures, and cutting out said pads with the line of each cut crossing the edge of a strip.

WILLIAM M. SCHOLL.