May 17, 1932. M. C. ANDREWS 1,859,192

CATAMENIAL BANDAGE

Original Filed May 18, 1928

Fig. 1.

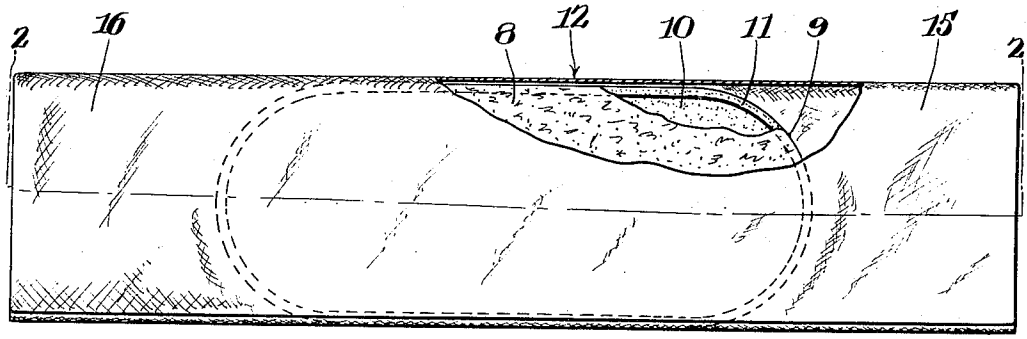



Fig. 2.

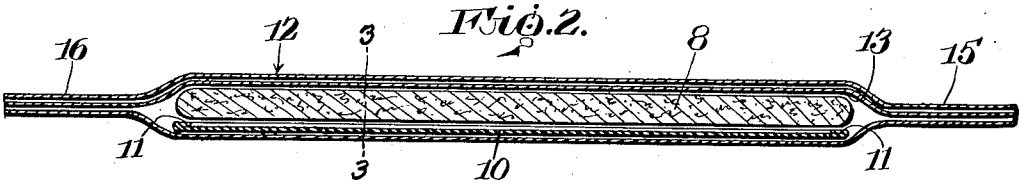



Fig. 3.

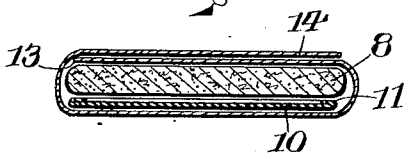



Fig. 4.

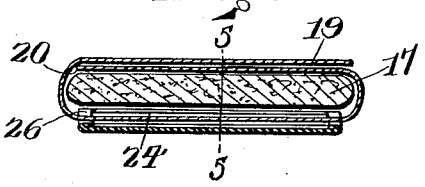



Fig. 5.

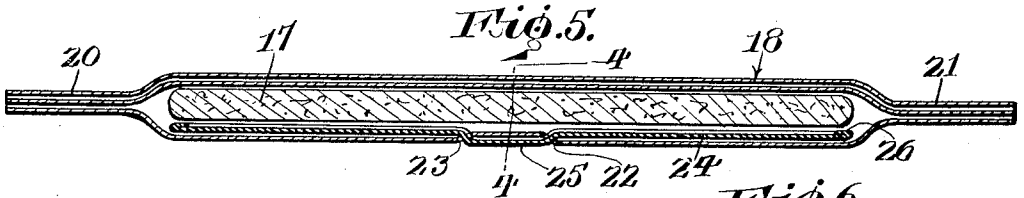



Fig. 6.

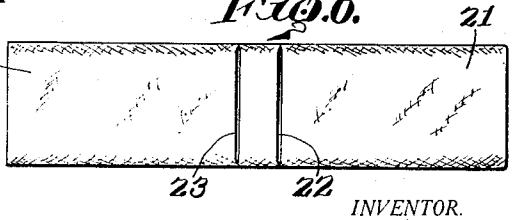
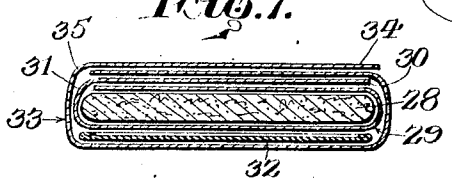



Fig. 7.




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1,859,192

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## CATAMENIAL BANDAGE

Application filed May 18, 1928, Serial No. 278,743. Renewed May 8, 1931.

This invention relates to catamenial bandages and the invention has for its object to provide in a manner as hereinafter set forth for absorbing menstrual discharges without soiling the clothing.

Another object of the invention is to provide in a manner as hereinafter set forth a bandage having a maximum amount of adsorptive capacity without increasing the discomfort of the wearer.

Further objects of the invention are to provide in a manner as hereinafter set forth a device for the purpose referred to which is simple in its construction and arrangement, thoroughly efficient for its intended use, soft, pliable, comfortable, with the minimum of bulk, conveniently carried in the pocket or purse for emergency, comparatively inexpensive to manufacture and convenient for destruction after use.

With the foregoing and other objects in view the invention consists of a novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter more specifically described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein is shown an embodiment of the invention, but it is to be understood that changes, variations and modifications may be resorted to which fall within the scope of the claims hereunto appended.

In the drawings wherein like reference characters denote corresponding parts throughout the several views:—

Figure 1 is a top plan view broken away illustrating a bandage in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 is a section on line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a section on line 4—4 of Figure 5 illustrating a modified form of the bandage.

Figure 5 is a section on line 5—5 of Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a bottom plan view of the modified form with the protecting element removed.

Figure 7 is a cross sectional view of still another modified form of the bandage in accordance with this invention.

Referring to Figures 1, 2 and 3 of the drawings in detail, 8 denotes a flexible absorbent, pad formed of fibrous cotton or like fibrous material of suitable length, width and thickness adopted for absorbing and retaining menstrual discharges for a period of time. The absorbent pad is substantially oval-shape whereby the rounded corners as at 9, prevent undue rubbing against the body which would otherwise occur with sharp corners, and furthermore said rounded corners reduces the possibility of causing wrinkles, both of which are very annoying to the wearer.

The absorbent pad is superimposed upon protecting element or member 10 of like shape and coextensive therewith. The member is made from a flexible material such as sheet rubber, rubberized cloth or other suitable material which is impervious to the menstrual discharge. The marginal portion throughout of the sheet, of which element 10 is formed is folded, as at 11 upon and secured to that face thereof against which the pad is positioned. The fold 11 provides one face of the element 10 with a shallow pocket of less area than the pad. The pocket is for the purpose of receiving a portion of the pad, when pressure is applied to the latter, when the bandage is worn to prevent the shifting of the pad relative to the element 10. The exposed edges of the hem grip the fibrous material of the pad, while the slightly raised hem provides a shoulder both of which taken together form a marginal anchor that materially increases cohesion between the pad and member and thereby minimizes the possibility of the pad and member being displaced from each other.

The pad and element are placed longitudinally upon a substantially rectangular gauze covering designated generally at 12. The covering material may be gauze, cheese cloth or any other suitable foraminous absorbent material. The width of the covering is such as to provide two layers or laps 13 and 14 when folded over on top of the pad and protecting element. The length of the covering material should be longer than the length of the pad so as to provide attaching extensions 15 and 16 at the ends of the band-

age and adjacent the ends of the pad and element when the covering material is folded about the pad. The extensions will be formed of three plies of the covering material and serve as front and rear attaching means when the bandage is in position upon the wearer.

Referring in detail to the modified form of the invention shown in Figures 4, 5 and 6 the numeral 17 designates an absorbent pad which is similar in form, shape and material as the pad 8. The covering material designated generally at 18 is similar in structure and form to the covering material 12 and is folded about the pad 17 in a similar manner to form the layers or laps 19 and 20 which are similar to the laps or layers 13 and 14. Furthermore the bandage is provided with attaching extensions 20 and 21 at the ends thereof of like form and material as the extensions 15 and 16.

The covering 18 is split transversely on the bottom side and centrally of the pad 17 to provide a pair of slits 22 and 23. The opposite ends of the protecting member 24 are inserted through each of adjacent slits and said ends are pulled tight on the inner side of the covering until they conform with the ends of the pad. In this position the pad 17 is superimposed upon and is coextensive with the member 24 with the exception of a lap 25 which has a short section of covering material intervening between the slits 22 and 23. The lap 25 secures the member 24 in place, and a hem 26 similar to hem 11 anchors the said member and the pad together, thereby providing a securing means for both the pad and protecting member.

Referring in detail to the modified form shown in Figure 7, the pad 28 is similar in shape, material and structure to absorbent pads 8 and 17. The covering member designated generally at 29 is similar in material and shape with member 12 and is folded around the pad 28 with the layers or laps 30 and 31 on the top thereof similar to the laps 13 and 14. The difference between the two structures being that the protecting member 32, similar in material, form and structure with members 10 and 24, is positioned beneath the pad 28 but outside of the initial covering member 29. A second covering member 33 similar in every way with the initial covering member is then folded about the protecting element 32, the initial covering element 29 and the pad 28 forming laps on the top thereof 34 and 35 which are superimposed on laps 30 and 31.

The attaching extensions of the initial covering member are folded within the extensions of the second covering member whereby an extension of six plies of material is provided. Both the extensions on this modified form are similar in every way with the extensions 20, 21 and 15, 16 except the initial extension is folded within the second extension.

In the application of the bandage, the upper face of the pad is positioned transversely of the crotch of the wearer next to the menstruating parts with the impervious member exterior thereof. The attaching extensions are secured to the underclothing or band provided for the purpose. When the bandage has absorbed its capacity it is removed and the covering material is unfolded preparatory to discarding the absorbent pad and covering. The protecting element is removed and may be cleaned and inserted in the bandage and substituted while the remaining parts may be destroyed. It is more desirable to have an extra protecting element so as to have one dry for substitution while the other is being cleansed. The impervious protecting element being on the exterior side of the bandage prevents seepage of the discharge upon the clothing in near proximity of the bandage.

What I claim is:—

1. A catamenial bandage comprising an oval shaped flexible absorbent pad, a flexible impervious protecting element opposing one face and of the same shape as said pad, a flexible covering overlapping said pad and element for supporting the same, said covering projecting from the opposite ends of said pad and element to provide extensions for attaching the bandage with the wearer, said element having an overlapping hem coextensive with the perimeter thereof to provide a shoulder forming to retard movement of the pad relative to said element, and said covering provided with spaced transverse slits for interconnecting said element therewith.

2. A catamenial bandage comprising a flat, flexible, absorbent pad of oval outline, a flexible, impervious protecting element opposing one face of said pad, corresponding in contour to and coextensive with said pad, an overlapping, flexible covering enclosing said pad and element, said covering projecting from the opposite ends of said pad and element to provide extensions for attaching the bandage to the wearer, said element having that face opposing said pad provided with a shallow pocket to receive a portion of the pad, when pressure is applied to the later when the bandage is worn to prevent the shifting of the pad relative to said element.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature hereto.

MONA C. ANDREWS.