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W. J. WALSH.

CUTTING AND STRIPPING DEVICE FOR SPOOL ADHESIVE PLASTERS.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 11, 1907.

Fig. 1.

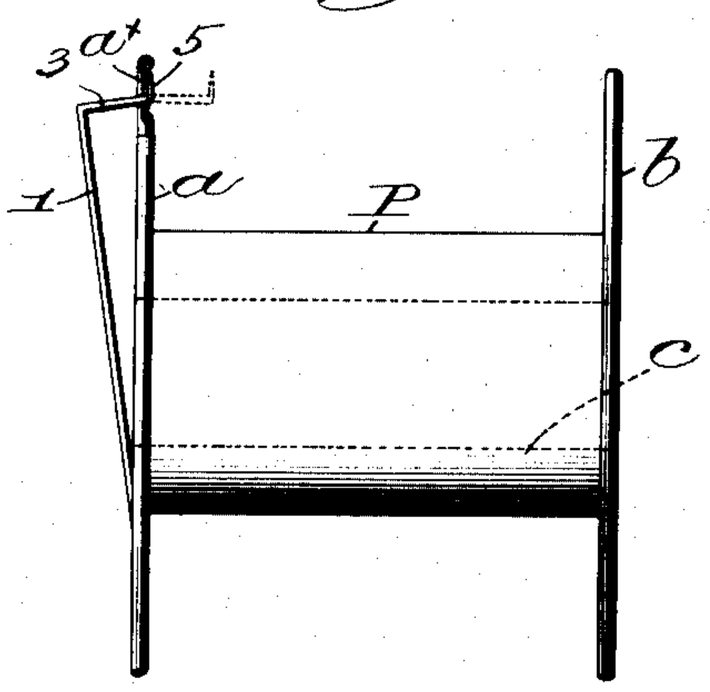


Fig. 2.

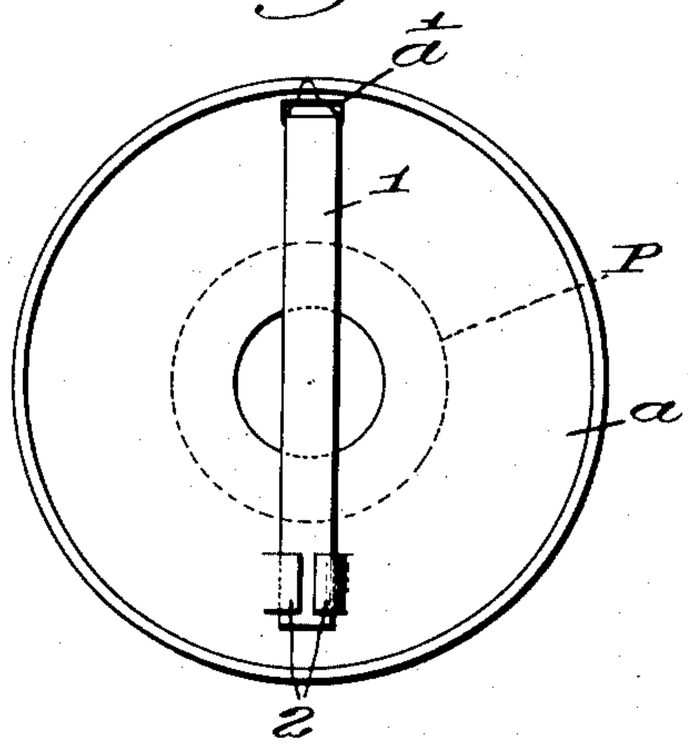


Fig. 5.

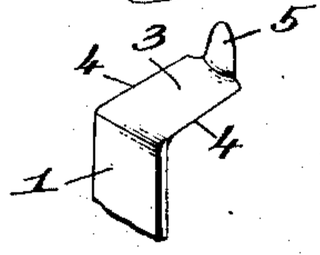


Fig. 3.

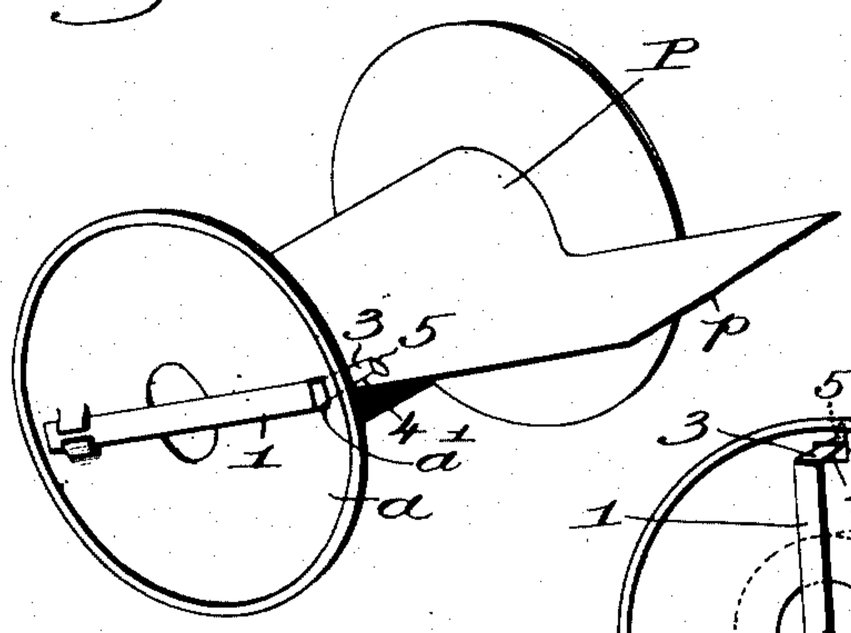
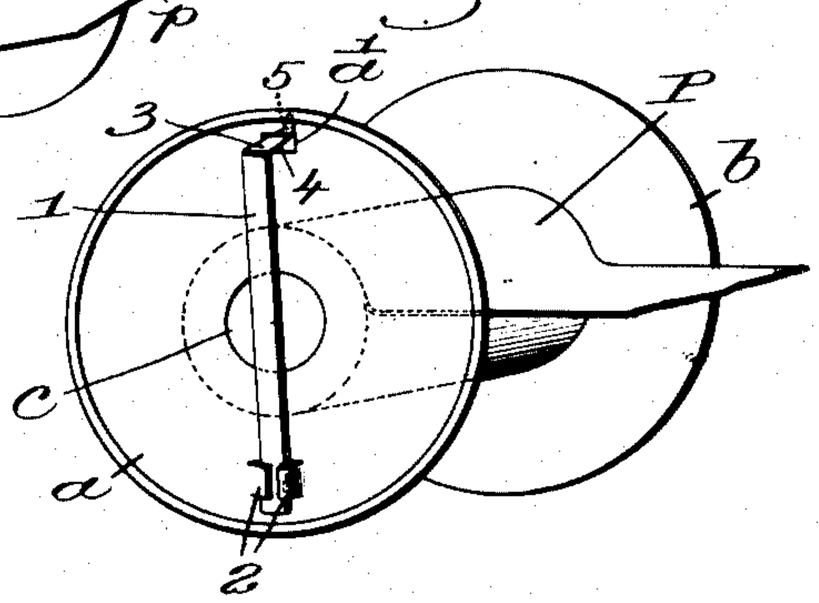


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CUTTING AND STRIPPING DEVICE FOR SPOOL ADHESIVE PLASTERS.

No. 879,223. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 18, 1908.

Application filed September 11, 1907. Serial No. 392,316.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. WALSH, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Cutting and Stripping Devices for Spool Adhesive Plasters, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, like letters on the drawing representing like parts.

The invention has for its object the production of simple and effective means whereby web-like material in roll form, such as adhesive surgical plaster, may be readily cut in order that the plaster can be severed in desired lengths, and also stripped longitudinally when a strip of less width than the plaster is required.

Adhesive surgical plaster is frequently put up in roll form on a spool, from which it is unwound and cut with scissors or a knife when used, as it is practically impossible to sever the plaster by tearing it across.

The use of scissors or a knife is inconvenient, as at times it is of great moment to use the plaster when a cutting implement is not at hand.

My present invention provides a simple device, mounted permanently upon the spool, by means of which the edge of the plaster is cut when desired, the severance of the plaster being then completed readily by tearing it across. I have also so arranged the cutting device that the plaster may be stripped longitudinally when required.

The various novel features of my invention will be fully described in the subjoined specification and particularly pointed out in the following claims.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a spool adhesive plaster with one embodiment of my invention applied thereto; Fig. 2 is a left hand end elevation thereof; Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the cutting device in position to cut the edge of the plaster; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the spool, with the cutting device in normal, inoperative position. Fig. 5 is a much enlarged detail in perspective of the cutting device and the adjacent end of the carrier.

The spool may be of any suitable or usual construction, comprising circular heads *a*, *b*, connected by a cylindrical core *c* upon which the web of material, such as adhesive surgical plaster, is mounted in roll form at P.

In practice the heads are usually made of thin sheet metal, and are rotatable relatively to the core, facilitating the drawing off of the plaster when required.

In the present embodiment of my invention I form an aperture *a'* in one of the spool heads, near its periphery, and upon the exterior of the said head I mount a resilient or spring arm 1, constituting a blade-carrier.

One end of the blade-carrier is fixedly secured to the head in any suitable manner, as by striking up opposite ears 2 from the head, inserting the end of the arm 1 between them, and then forcing them down thereupon, preferably also soldering said parts together.

The arm or blade-carrier is extended diametrically across the head *a* and its free end is herein shown as bent at 3 and extended through the aperture *a'*, to form a blade and preferably its opposite edges are sharpened, as at 4, see Fig. 5.

The blade is tapered, and its extremity turned out, as at 5, transversely to the blade, to form a rather pointed prong or stripper, for a purpose to be described.

By making the blade-carrier of spring steel the blade is conveniently made integral therewith, so that its cutting edges can be readily sharpened.

The blade-carrier is slightly bent outward so that normally its resiliency throws it outward into full line position Fig. 1, and as shown in Fig. 4, retracting the blade 3 so that its prong or stripper 5 is held against the inner side of the head *a*, and at such time the plaster can be unwound from the spool without any hindrance.

When the desired length is drawn off the user presses the blade-carrier down upon the head *a*, thereby moving the blade 3 inward through the aperture *a'* into operative position, see dotted lines Fig. 1 and full lines Fig. 3.

The adjacent edge *p*, Fig. 3, of the plaster is now drawn firmly across the cutting edge 4 of the blade and a transverse cut is made in the plaster at its edge.

By a sharp pull the plaster can then be readily torn all the way across, from the starting cut made as described, and the desired length is severed from the plaster, the blade being returned to inoperative position as soon as pressure is removed from the blade-carrier.

When the latter is pressed against the head it also bears against the end of the core

c and holds the latter from rotation when the edge of the plaster is drawn across the cutting blade.

If it is desired to strip the plaster longitudinally it is drawn down upon the prong or stripper 5 and pulled in the direction of its length, the thin edge of the stripper acting to cut the plaster longitudinally, it being understood that when the stripper is used the blade-carrier will be pressed against the spool head, as in Fig. 3.

The device obviates the use of scissors or a knife, and is always ready for use, while at the same time it offers no obstruction to drawing the plaster off the spool for any desired length.

As best shown in Fig. 5 the edges of the stripper 5 are set in somewhat from the edges 4 of the blade 3, in order that when the plaster is drawn across an edge 4 to make the transverse cut the stripper will not interfere with such operation.

While the resiliency of the blade-carrier 1 normally holds the stripper 5 against the inner side of the spool-head *a* I prefer to make a slight indentation or recess $a^{\times}$ in the latter, see the broken out portion of Fig. 1, in order that normally the stripper will lie substantially flush with the inner side of said head, to thereby obviate any chance of the plaster engaging it should it be desired to wind onto the spool an unused portion of the plaster.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. As an article of manufacture, a spool comprising a cylindrical core and connected circular heads one of which has an aperture near its periphery, a plaster roll mounted on the core, a cutting blade movable through the aperture in the spool head, and a resilient blade-carrier fixedly secured to the exterior of the apertured head of the spool, pressure upon the carrier forcing the blade inward to cut the edge of the plaster when drawn across the blade.

2. As an article of manufacture, a spool having connected heads one of which is apertured near its periphery, a resilient blade-carrier fixedly secured at one end to the exterior of said apertured head and having its free end opposite the aperture, a blade mounted on the free end of the blade-carrier and extended into the aperture, and a plaster roll mounted between the heads of the spool, the blade-carrier normally retracting the blade, pressure upon said blade-carrier positioning the blade at the inner side of the head to cut the edge of the plaster when drawn across it.

3. As an article of manufacture, a spool having connected heads one of which is apertured near its periphery, a plaster roll mounted on the spool between its heads, and a manually controlled blade movable through the aperture into position at the inner side of the head to cut the edge of the plaster when drawn across the blade.

4. As an article of manufacture, a spool having connected heads one of which is apertured near its periphery, a plaster roll mounted on the spool between its heads, and a manually controlled combined cutting blade and stripper, movable through the aperture into position to cut the edge of the plaster transversely or to strip the plaster longitudinally, as desired.

5. As an article of manufacture, a spool having connected heads one of which is apertured near its periphery, a plaster roll mounted on the spool between its heads, a resilient arm fixedly secured at one end on the exterior of the apertured head and having its free end bent to pass through the aperture and sharpened to form a blade, and an out-turned stripper on the blade transverse thereto, the arm normally maintaining the blade retracted and the stripper adjacent the inner side of the head.

6. As an article of manufacture, a spool comprising connected heads, a roll of adhesive plaster mounted thereon, and manually controlled means mounted on one of the heads to form a transverse cut in the edge of the plaster, whereby the latter may be readily severed into desired lengths.

7. As an article of manufacture, a spool comprising connected heads, a web of material in roll form mounted on the spool between its heads, and a manually movable blade mounted on one of the heads and adapted to be moved into position to transversely cut the edge of the web when drawn across the blade.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM J. WALSH.

Witnesses:
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