when possibly the body of the organism is better able to withstand the effects of a fairly rapid dissipation of vital energy," Dr. Ingle said. "Suffice it to say that any and all of the functions of the body, because of their utilization of vital energy, are factors in determining the

life-span.
"The prolongation of the period of youth is perhaps after all not merely a vague dream, but quite possibly may have a basis for realization in temperate living, resulting in the moderate dissipation of vital energy.

Science News Letter, August 8, 1936

INVENTION

### New Rubber Soap Wrapper Better Protection, is Claim

CAKES of soap may step out in new wraps—a thin, two to five onethousandths of an inch thick, waterproof coating of rubber, if a method of coating cakes with rubber for which a patent (No. 2,042,104) has been granted to J. P. Kane, of New York City, should go into commercial use.

Taking the place of the conventional paper wrappers, the sheer rubber coating is claimed to keep the soap water-and weather-proof. To "unwrap" such a cake of soap, the rubber coating is simply stripped off by tugging at a little tab on the side. The rubber wrappers could be colored any desired hue.

According to the inventor, many attempts have been made to turn out rubber-wrapped cakes of soap commercially, but with no success. The rubber coating would not stick to the cake properly. Cakes of soap so coated would stick together and the rubber would "bleed" or run into the soap and dis-color it. By his novel method, however, he claims these defects are overcome.

The cakes of soap are sprayed with or dipped into an aqueous solution containing rubber, sulfur, zinc oxide and an "ultra-rapid accelerator." Coated with this solution, cakes then go into a drying chamber, and finally into a vulcanizing chamber. Because of the ultra-rapid accelerator, vulcanization takes place quickly and at low temperatures so that the cake of soap is unaffected.

"In this manner," claims the inventor, "an adherent rubber coating is formed over the cake of soap which snugly fits every indentation and contour so that trade-marks and designs impressed in the soap appear very clearly and present an attractive package.'

The coating is permeable to the perfume of the soap.

Science News Letter, August 8, 1936

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## which brands are

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6 are rated as "NOT ACCEPTABLE"

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REPORTS, WITH RATINGS, OF OIL BURNERS, LAUNDRY SOAPS, HOSIERY, and other products.

The August issue of Consumers Union Reports will compare and rate leading makes of oil burners, coal stokers, and gas fired burners, and will help you answer the problem of whether to install an oil burner or a coal stoker. Before buying equipment costing hundreds of dollars consult this issue.

The August issue will also report on Kayser, Phoenix, Gotham, Van Raalte, and other leading brands of hosiery.

Future issues will give information, including ratings, on widely-advertised brands liquors, shoes, shirts, razors and razor blades, breads, drugs, cosmetics, and other products.

35 brands of motor oils, including Mobiloil, Veedol, Esso, Quaker State, and Pennzoil; 9 brands of bathing suits; and fifteen brands of sunburn preventives (with the names of three that work and twelve that don't) are also rated and reported on in this issue. These reports may enable you to save money—read them before you buy!

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