

No. 711,872.

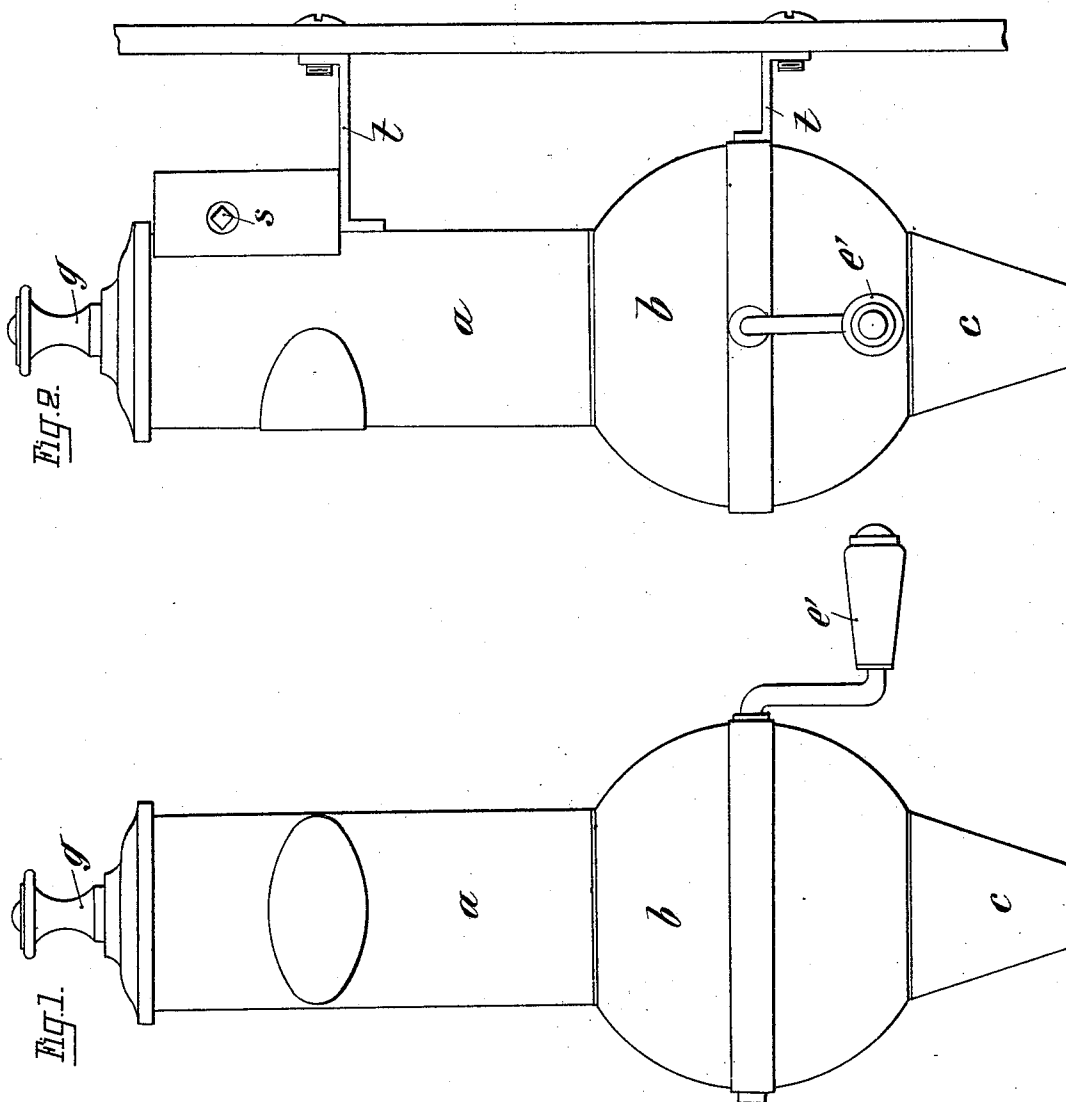
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P. LEONI.
SOAP SAVER.

(Application filed Apr. 29, 1902.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHILIPPE LEONI, OF PARIS, FRANCE.

SOAP-SAVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 711,872, dated October 21, 1902.

Application filed April 29, 1902. Serial No. 105,198. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PHILIPPE LEONI, manufacturer of automatic distributing apparatus, of 12 Boulevard de Magenta, in the city of Paris, Republic of France, have invented a Soap-Saver, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to an improved apparatus for cutting or rasping soap for use in hotel and other lavatories characterized by the combination, with a soap-rasp, of a soap-box provided with a central guide-bar, this central guide-bar being arranged to receive a cake of soap provided for this purpose with a central perforation, the object of which is to insure that the said cake of soap maintains a normal position with respect to the scraping or rasping instrument by means of which the soap is shredded or cut into chips, shavings, or powder.

My improved apparatus also comprises a piston or diaphragm acted upon by a spring which can be held back or "cocked" to permit a cake of soap to be introduced into the soap-box and which is automatically released to press the soap against the rasping instrument when the soap-box is placed in the body of the apparatus. I also provide a suitable lock and key to prevent the soap placed in the apparatus being stolen.

My invention will be readily understood from the following description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view, Fig. 2 a side view, and Fig. 3 a vertical section, of my improved apparatus. Fig. 4 is a detail elevation of the soap-box with which my improved apparatus is provided, and Fig. 5 is an under side view thereof. Fig. 6 is a vertical section of the said soap-box, the thrust-spring being shown "uncocked" or released; and Fig. 7 is a similar view to Fig. 6, showing the thrust-spring cocked or restrained. Fig. 8 shows a piece of perforated soap such as I employ in my improved apparatus. Fig. 9 is a plan view thereof. Fig. 10 shows a square-barreled key for unlocking the soap-box from the body of the apparatus. Fig. 11 indicates various forms of soap-box guide-bars viewed end on which can be employed in my improved apparatus, corresponding perforations being formed in the cakes of soap.

In the figures like reference-letters indicate the same parts.

As shown in the drawings, my improved apparatus comprises a cylindrical part *a*, attached to a spherical part *b*, beneath which a discharge-hopper *c* is arranged. In the cylindrical part *a* is placed the soap-box *f*, arranged to feed the soap toward the spherical part *b*, in which is placed a cylindrical or other suitable rasp or scraper *d*, which, as here shown, is mounted on a horizontal spindle *e* and operated by means of a suitable handle *e'* on the outside. The shreds, chips, shavings, or powder cut from the soap by the rasp or scraper *d* when the handle *e'* is rotated fall out through the hopper *c*.

The soap-box comprises a cylindrical part *f*, closed at its upper end by a plug *g*, by which it may be handled or carried. Centrally disposed in the soap-box *f* is a guide-bar *h*, having radiating ribs. Around this guide are mounted a spiral spring *i* and a piston or diaphragm *j*, which is arrested against a circular shoulder *k* when the spring is extended sufficiently. The piston *j* carries a spring-catch *l*, which when the piston is drawn back, compressing the spring *i*, projects into a hole or recess provided in the cylindrical wall of the soap-box *f*, so that the spring *i* can be kept compressed.

The cakes of soap *n* which I employ are preferably cylindrical and perforated with axial holes *o*, corresponding to the shape of the guide-bar *h*. When it is required to place a cake of soap within the soap-box *f*, the piston *j* is drawn back, compressing the spring *i*. When this has been done, the soap *n* is threaded over the guide *h*, which is held by the perforations *h'*. Then the whole is placed in the cylindrical body of the apparatus. The act of putting the soap-box *f* into this cylindrical body portion of the apparatus releases the catch *l*, while at the same time a spring-controlled lock-bolt *p* engages the shoulder *q*. The soap-box being thus locked to the body of the apparatus, the piston *j* is released, and the spring *i* thrusts the soap against the scraping or rasping instrument *d*.

The soap is supported in an upright position in the apparatus by the guide-bar *h*.

When it is necessary to remove the soap-box *f* to refill the same with a new piece of soap, a key *r* is inserted to turn the pin *s*, by

which the lock-bolt *p* can be withdrawn to release the soap-box *f*, which can then be lifted by the knob *g* and withdrawn from the cylindrical body portion of the apparatus.

5 The complete apparatus can be easily fixed to a wall by brackets *tt* or the like.

In place of a three-armed guide-bar, as in the above example, I can employ any of the forms shown in end elevation in Fig. 11 of
10 the drawings or any other suitable form, correspondingly-shaped perforations being provided in the cake of soap.

The details, forms, and accessories, materials, and dimensions of my improved apparatus can be varied without departing from the nature of my said invention. Thus, for
15 example, I may replace the spring *i* by a weight which can be held up by a chain in order to prevent it from falling out of the soap-box *f*. In this instance the weight is
20 suitably perforated to pass over the guide-bar. Any other suitable arrangement can be used to lock the soap-box *f* in the body portion *a* of the apparatus, so as to minimize
25 loss by thefts of soap—for example, a slide-bolt, or bayonet-joint and padlock, or the like.

One or more grooves in the periphery of the cake of soap can be substituted for the central perforation, equivalent ribs or walls being provided in the soap-box. The key *r* can
30 be replaced by any other suitable form of key.

I claim—

1. In combination, means for cutting the soap, a box, a follower therein to press the soap to the cutter and a guide-bar for the soap
35 having ribs, substantially as described.

2. In combination, a cutter, a casing therefor, a soap-box, a spring-pressed follower in the soap-box and a catch for holding the follower retracted, said catch being released automatically by contact with a part of the casing when the soap-box is inserted in place,
40 substantially as described.

The foregoing specification of my improved apparatus for cutting or rasping soap for use
45 in hotel and other lavatories signed by me this 17th day of April, 1902.

PHILIPPE LEONI.

Witnesses:

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