

July 7, 1925.

1,545,343

A. S. MACK

FINGER MOISTENER

Filed Sept. 4, 1924

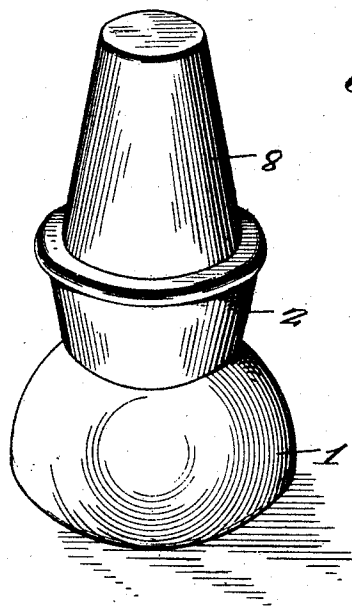


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

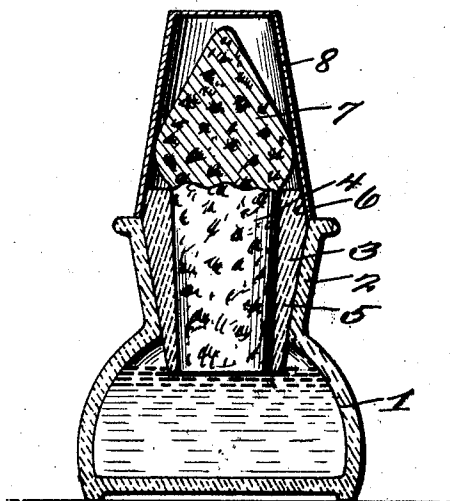
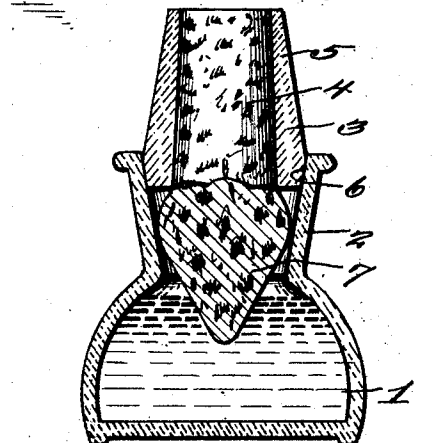


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER S. MACK, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FINGER MOISTENER.

Application filed September 4, 1924. Serial No. 735,972.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that ALEXANDER S. MACK, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, has invented new and useful Improvements in Finger Moisteners, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention has for its purpose to provide an improved finger moistener for use in handling tickets, papers, circulars, bills and like articles, that is, in arranging, counting and examining or assorting them, and to accomplish the result in a sanitary and time-saving manner.

Heretofore, sponges moistened with water have been used and these must be washed or cleaned every day or they become sour or moldy. Furthermore, with this method it is necessary to moisten the fingers many times during the handling of various papers or during a counting process for the reason that the water evaporates quickly.

The present invention contemplates the use of glycerin as it has been discovered that such fluid effects a roughness of the fingers for from fifteen to thirty minutes constant use which will greatly facilitate the handling of papers, bills and correspondence, thereby obviating the constant remoistening of the fingers. The contents of glycerin is about eleven thousand times lighter than water, is colorless and odorless, and when used with a sponge does not have to be cleaned, unless the surroundings are full of dust that would naturally accumulate on anything that is moist. However, due to the fact that the invention also aims to provide a cover for the sponge which is moistened with glycerin, even the accumulation of dust is avoided.

Another purpose is to provide a device by which the fingers may be moistened, the device comprising a main container for the glycerin or similar liquid, together with a stopper which carries a sponge with a spear-like terminal to be supported in the container, in combination with a cover constructed of heavy tinfoil for the purpose of fitting over the spear-shaped head of the sponge when the moistener is not in use, thereby avoiding the collection of dust.

A further purpose is to provide a stopper which is tapered from the center in opposite directions, so that when the stopper is in a position to close the container or in a position whereby the spear-shaped head of the sponge may be moistened, the stopper

neatly fits the tapered neck of the container in such wise as to prevent the escape of the glycerin or similar liquid. To moisten the sponge, the stopper may be inverted and inserted in the container to moisten the spear-shaped head of the sponge and possibly the container agitated or shaken up and down, or when the stopper is in its upright position, the container may be shaken or vibrated up and down, in which case the glycerin will saturate the bottom of the sponge and through capillary attraction reach the spear-shaped head thereof.

It is to be understood that the particulars herein given are in no way limitative and that, while still keeping within the scope of the invention, any desired modifications of detail and desired proportions may be made in the device according to the circumstances.

The invention comprises further features and combinations of parts to be hereinafter set forth, shown in the drawings and claimed.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the improved finger moistener constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view through the same.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view with the cover removed and the stopper inverted and the spear-shaped head of the sponge extending into the glycerin or similar liquid, whereby it may be moistened.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates a container which may be made of any suitable material, preferably glass or the like, and may be made any size or configuration. Preferably, the container is provided with a neck 2 having a tapered inside surface, and 3 denotes a stopper or plug which is hollow and open-ended and into which the body of a sponge 4 may be fitted. In fact, the sponge may be crowded into the stopper or plug so as to be retained securely in position. The stopper or plug may be constructed of any suitable material, preferably glass or the like. The sponge 4 may be made any contour at its terminal portion, preferably spear-shaped.

The stopper or plug is tapered in opposite directions, the greater tapered portion 5 normally engaging the neck 2 of the container or bottle while the reduced or smaller taper 6 is designed to engage the

neck of the container or bottle when the stopper or plug is inverted and inserted into the neck for the purpose of saturating the spear-shaped head 7 of the sponge. The tapered portions of the plug or stopper correspond to and are adapted to fit the taper of the neck of the bottle or container.

A suitable cap 8 constructed of relatively heavy tin foil is adapted to fit over the spear-shaped head of the sponge when the moistener is not in use. This cap is also of a taper corresponding to the taper of the plug or stopper, so that when it is in position, as in Figures 1 and 2, the cap will properly fit the smaller taper of the plug or stopper and be retained in position.

In using the moistener, the cap is first removed and if the container has a sufficient quantity of glycerin, it will, through capillary attraction, feed through the sponge to the spear-shaped head thereof. However, if the level of glycerin is below the lower end of the plug or stopper and not in contact with the sponge which may have become dry, it is possible to invert the container, in which case the glycerin will feed through the sponge to the head. It is possible to shake the container sufficiently to cause the glycerin to reach the sponge. Also, the plug or stopper may be removed and inverted and then replaced in engage-

ment with the neck of the container or bottle and when in this position, the bottle or container may be shaken which will cause the glycerin to saturate the spear-shaped head.

The invention having been set forth, what is claimed is:

1. In a finger moistener, a container for the reception of a finger moistening fluid provided with a tapered neck, and a stopper carrying a finger moistening sponge and tapered toward both ends, insertible in an upright or inverted position into the neck of the container for moistening the sponge, said sponge having a projecting finger moistening head.

2. In a finger moistener, a container for the reception of a finger moistening fluid provided with a tapered neck, a stopper carrying a finger moistening sponge and tapered toward both ends, insertible in an upright or inverted position into the neck of the container for moistening the sponge, said sponge having a projecting finger moistening head, and a cap to engage and fit over either end of the stopper when in an upright or inverted position.

In testimony whereof he affixes his signature.

ALEXANDER S. MACK.