Nov. 18, 1930. W. H. HAWKES 1,782,039

FLATIRON

Filed March 26, 1929

Fig. 1.

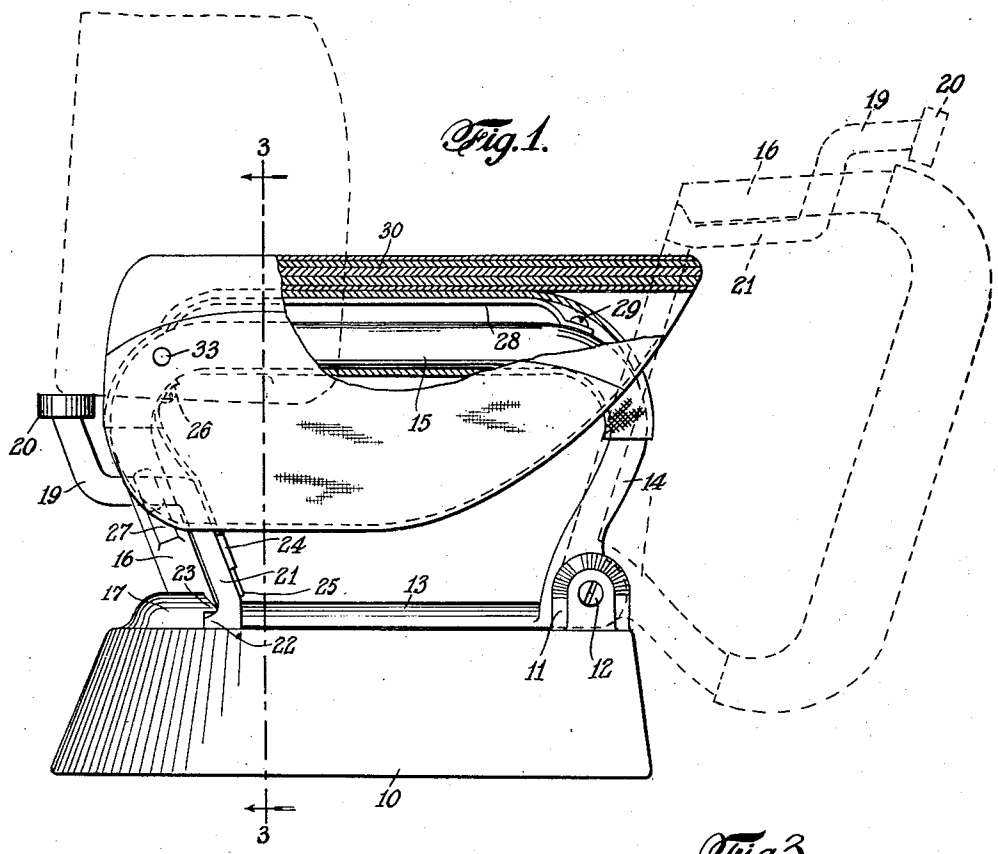


Fig. 2.

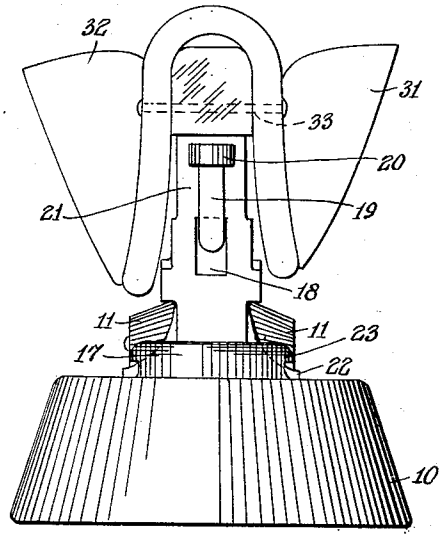
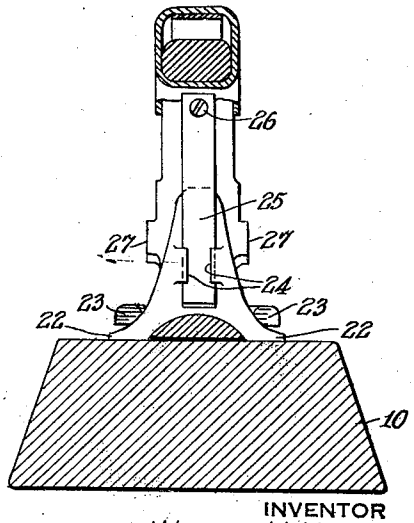


Fig. 3.



INVENTOR
WILLIAM H. HAWKES
BY
Warren E. Willis.
ATTORNEY

Patented Nov. 18, 1930 1,782,039

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WILLIAM H. HAWKES, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

FLATIRON

Application filed March 26, 1929. Serial No. 349,929.

This invention relates to flat or smoothing irons, and more particularly to handles for such irons.

The flat irons ordinarily used for the pressing of starched goods—such as shirts, as well as other articles—when heated to a high temperature, will continue to radiate heat in all directions for a considerable time.

As a result of the radiation of heat, the handles of such irons become unduly hot and consequently may not be comfortably grasped by an operator. It is therefore desirable that the heating of the handles be minimized at all times, especially when the iron is idle.

It is an object of this invention to provide a handle which may be swung into an inoperative position whereby it will not be materially affected by the temperature of the device used in imparting heat to the iron.

A further feature is the provision of a novel latching device for securely holding the handle in operative position when the iron is in use.

These and other objects are accomplished by the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter described and shown in this disclosure, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a flat iron embodying the invention, and showing in broken lines the handle and cover when in raised position.

Figure 2 is a front view of the iron.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawings, a flat iron 10 is provided with upstanding lugs 11 carrying a pintle 12 on which is pivotally mounted the base bar 13 of a handle.

Formed on the handle base 13 is a rear support 14 for the hand grip portion 15, the latter being integral at its forward end with a support 16, unitary with the base 13.

When in use, the junction of the support 16 and base 13 rests in an arcuate recess in a lug 17 integral with the iron 10 and open at the rear.

Passing through a slot 18 in the support 16 is a lever having an outwardly projecting arm 19 which is provided at its raised extremity with a finger tip 20 of heat insulating material. The opposite arm 21 of the lever has a bifurcated extremity provided with latch members 22 adapted to engage projections 23 on the lug 17 to latch the handle to the iron. The arm 21 is provided with a pair of lugs 24 which maintain a spring 25 in contact with arm 21 to constantly urge the latch members 22 towards and under the projections 23, the spring 25 being fastened to the support 16 by a screw 26.

On the sides of the forward support 21 are opposed lugs 27 acting in co-operation with a heater to limit the entrance of the iron thereon.

Mounted on the hand grip 15 is a bowed spring 28, which has one of its ends fixed by a screw 29 rigidly to the grip 15, the shape of the spring providing a space 29 therebelow through which air may circulate to aid in cooling the hand grip, and also affording a yielding effect to the handle when grasped by an operator.

A protective pad 30 of several layers of fabric covers the hand grip, the pad being provided with a pocket 31 to receive the thumb of an operator, and a hand rest 32.

When the flat iron is to be heated, the thumb tip 20 is depressed to disengage the latch and the handle is rotated about the pintle 12 to place the hand grip 15 in a vertical position at the rear of the iron 10. This may be accomplished by the thumb of an operator applied to the button 20, but is preferably done by raising the pad 30 at the rear, pivoting it on a pin 33 passing through its forward end and also the handle 15 near its curved junction with the forward support 16, as seen in the broken lines in Figure 1, which also shows the handle in a raised, inoperative position. When it is desired to use the iron, the handle is rotated forwardly and the latch members 22 are caused by the spring 25 to snap into engagement with the projections 23.

From the foregoing it will be seen that a simple device for this purpose has been disclosed in the preferred form of its embodiment, but it is not desired to restrict the details to the exact construction shown, it being obvious that changes, not involving the exer-

cise of invention, may be made without conflicting with the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. The combination with a flat iron having a body, a handle pivoted at one end thereto, and a lever carried by the handle to engage the opposite end, of a cushion pad pivoted to said handle, means for releasing said lever when the pad is turned upon its pivot, and a single flat spring intervening the upper surface of the handle and pad throughout their length.

2. The combination with a flat iron having a body, a handle pivoted at one end thereto, and a lever carried by the handle to engage the opposite end, of a cushion pad pivoted to said handle, means for releasing said lever when the pad is turned upon its pivot, and a single flat spring intervening the upper surface of the handle and pad throughout their length, said releasing means comprising a portion of said pad normally out of contact with said lever and upon pivoting of said pad engageable against said lever for moving the lever free from said body.

3. In a flat iron having a body, a handle pivotally mounted at one end on the body, means for latching the other end of said handle on said body and including a lever adjacent said handle, said lever being depressible for releasing said latching, a pad on said handle, normally out of contact with said lever, and a pin engaged thru said pad and handle for pivotally supporting said pad to pivot so that a portion thereof engages and depresses said lever.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM H. HAWKES.