Dec. 28, 1965 A. MICALE 3,225,981

COMBINATION PROTECTIVE AND UTILITY DEVICE FOR SEWING MACHINES

Filed Nov. 14, 1963

FIG. 1

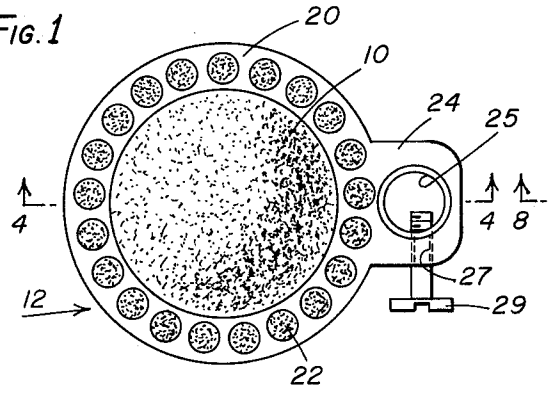


FIG. 5

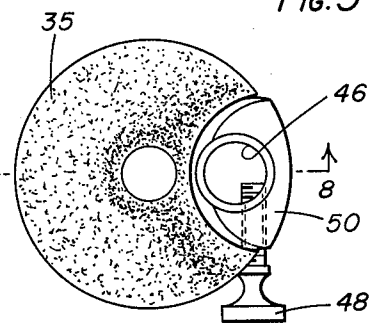


FIG. 2

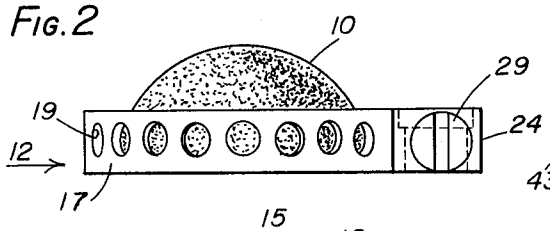


FIG. 6

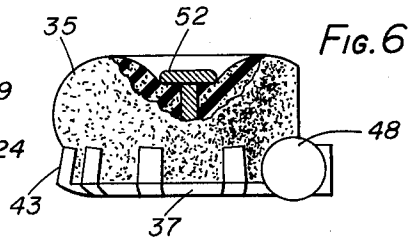


FIG. 3

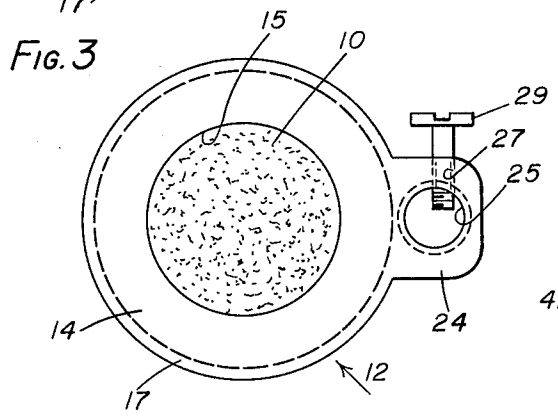


FIG. 7

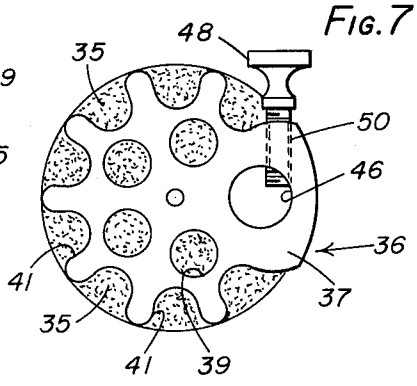


FIG. 4

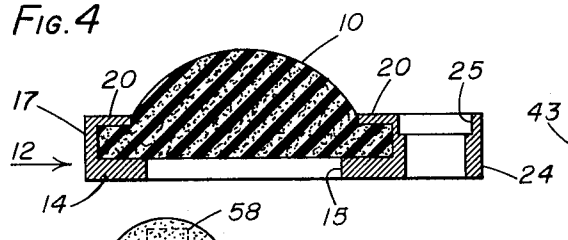


FIG. 8

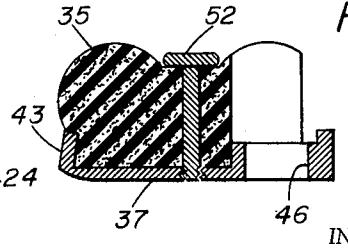
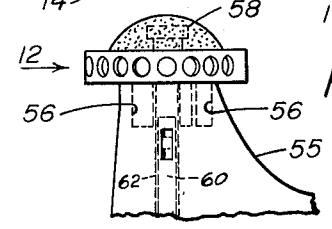


FIG. 9



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United States Patent Office

3,225,981

Patented Dec. 28, 1965

3,225,981

COMBINATION PROTECTIVE AND UTILITY DEVICE FOR SEWING MACHINES

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Filed Nov. 14, 1963, Ser. No. 323,634

3 Claims. (Cl. 223—109)

This invention relates to a combination protective and utility device for sewing machines.

When the needle bar of a sewing machine is oiled, as it must be periodically, and the machine is started, oil is splashed up and out of the oil holes provided for oiling.

The splashed oil soils goods being sewed and some of it falls on the operator. The present device prevents the splashing.

Pieces of material to be sewed together, such as garments parts, are pinned together preparatory to sewing, which pins are removed before sewing. To keep the sewing machine table clear for goods, it is the practice of operators to tie a rag around the head of the machine and stick the pins in it, and needles also, a supply of the latter being needed to replace broken or point-dulled needles. The present device, especially due to its position and its construction as a splash preventer, serves also as a cushion for the pins and needles, thus having a dual function.

The drawings illustrate the invention, and in these:

FIGS. 1 through 4 show one form of the device and FIGS. 4 through 8 show a modification, and FIG. 9 shows the placement of either form on the head of a sewing machine.

FIGS. 1, 2 and 3 are respectively plan, side and bottom plan views of one form of the device;

FIG. 4 is a section on line 4—4 of FIG. 1;

FIGS. 5, 6 and 7 are respectively plan, side and bottom plan views of an alternative form of the device, FIG. 6 being partly in section;

FIG. 8 is a section on line 8—8 of FIG. 5; and

FIG. 9 is an elevational view of the top portion of the head of a sewing machine in combination with the device shown in FIGS. 1–4 thereon and attached thereto.

Referring to the drawings for a detailed description thereof, and at first to FIGS. 1–4, the device comprises a cushion **10** of absorbent material, which is also preferably resilient, and a holder **12** therefor, the holder having means whereby it may be attached to a stationary part of the machine. The cushion is adapted to absorb oil and to receive and hold pins and needles. The holder comprises a round bottom **14** which has a central, circular, oil-admitting opening **15**, through which splashed oil may strike cushion and be absorbed by it. An upstanding flange **17** rises from the bottom **14** and has spaced round openings **19** therearound (FIG. 2). Extending inwardly from the upper edge of the upstanding flange **14** is an inwardly extending, annular cushion-retaining flange **20** (FIGS. 1 and 4), which has a series of round holes **22**. Extending radially from the holder proper is a projection **24**, which has a counterbored round hole **25** extending therethrough from top to bottom and adapted to receive a stationary or fixed part of a sewing machine. The projection also has a threaded hole **27** in one side and running to the hole **25** to receive a tightening screw **29**. The margin of the cushion is pressed under the retaining flange **20** and is thereby held in place, the main part of the cushion being

above the holder. The various holes **17** and **19** are provided so that needles of different sizes may be put through different holes to penetrate the cushion, while pins may be put into its central portion.

Referring now to FIGS. 5–8, which show a modified form of cushion and holder, the cushion **35** is set in a holder **36**. The latter comprises a bottom **37**, punched to have several internal, oil-admitting round holes **39** and a plurality of peripheral, curved, open apertures **41**. Integral with the bottom, and between the open apertures **41**, are projections or fingers **43**; these are bent upwardly and inwardly to press into the cushion and hold it in place. The bottom is mostly of circular form, but at one side (FIGS. 5 and 7) it has a peripheral arc of slightly greater radius, and at the same side it has a round hole **46** to receive a fixed part of the sewing machine to which it may be fastened by a thumb screw **48**. This screw threadedly engages an internally threaded hole **50** which runs from the periphery into hole **46**. The cushion **35** is securely held to the holder by a central pin **52** which is threaded into the bottom of the holder.

Referring to FIG. 9, the head **55** of a sewing machine has oil holes **56** by which the sewing machine is oiled, which holes reach the top of the head of the machine. The needle bar **60** of the sewing machine fits within a bore **62** which also reaches the top of the machine, said bore being utilized to oil the needle bar. The cushion **12** is shown covering the oil holes **56** and bore **62** to prevent splashing when the machine is started. Splashed oil passes through aperture **15** in the cushion holder and is absorbed by the absorbent cushion **10**. The cushion holder is shown attached to the cap screw **58** of the foot bar, which cap screw regulates the pressure of the usual spring which presses down on the foot bar, the cap screw passing through the vertical hole **25**. Screw **29** tightens the holder against cap screw, the position of the latter varying relative to the holder as it is screwed up or down on the foot bar spring.

What is claimed is:

1. In a sewing machine having a frame, a needle bar, said frame having a hole for oiling said needle bar, an attachment comprising a cushion adapted to absorb oil and to hold pins and needles, a holder in which the cushion rests, said holder including a bottom having an aperture formed therein to allow splashed oil to rise through said hole to reach the cushion, an upstanding flange rising from the peripheral edge of the bottom, a cushion-retaining annular flange extending inwardly from the top of the upright flange, the peripheral margin of the cushion compressed between the bottom and the annular flange, and releasable means on said holder for securing the holder to a fixed part of a sewing machine.

2. The sewing machine attachment of claim **1** wherein there are openings in at least one of the flanges for the insertion of needles or pins therethrough into the cushion.

3. In a sewing machine having a frame, a needle bar, said frame having a hole for oiling said needle bar, an attachment comprising a cushion adapted to absorb oil and to hold pins and needles, a holder, said holder comprising a bottom on which said cushion rests having at least one aperture formed therein to allow splashed oil to pass therethrough to reach the cushion, means rising from the bottom and retaining the cushion at its periphery, and clamp-

ing means integral with said holder adapted to attach said holder to a sewing machine.

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