April 24, 1934. K. M. UHRI 1,955,989

DETERGENT HOLDER

Filed April 18, 1932

Fig. 1.

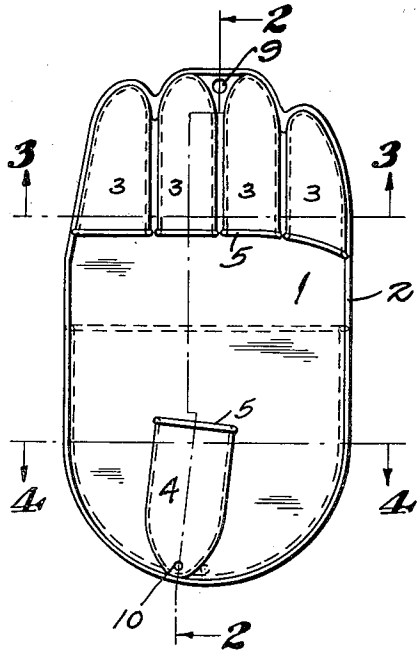


Fig. 2.

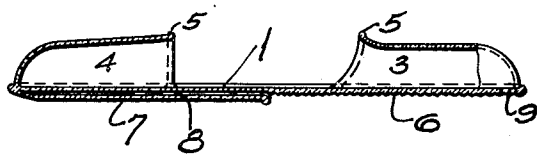


Fig. 3.

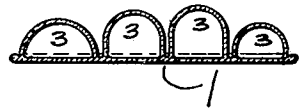


Fig. 4.

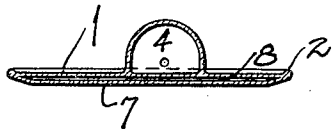


Fig. 5.

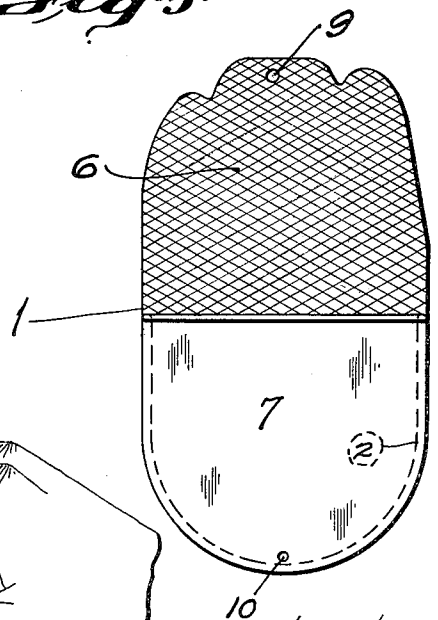
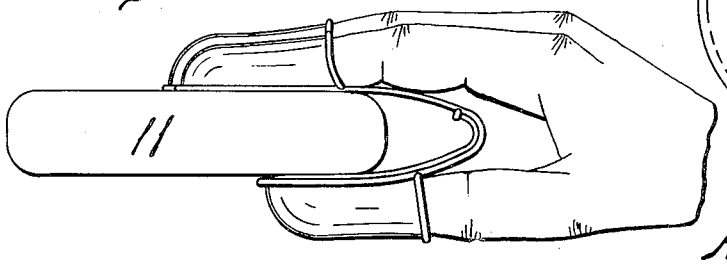


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,955,989

DETERGENT HOLDER

Katherine M. Uhri, St. Louis, Mo.

Application April 18, 1932, Serial No. 605,825

3 Claims. (Cl. 2—20)

My invention relates to the use of soap, scouring cakes, steel wool, either loose or in cake form, and similar detergents and the invention consists in a holder for the detergent which may be readily applied to the fingers of the user and will protect the same from injury without affecting the manipulation of the detergent in the usual way.

One object of the invention is to protect the skin of the user from injury due to the chemical or physical properties of the detergent.

Another object of the invention is to provide a suitable receptacle for the detergent material wherein it may be kept when not in use.

Other detailed objects are apparent from the following description of my device and its use and from inspection of the accompanying drawing illustrating a preferred form of the invention in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of one face of the device.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section through the same taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figures 3 and 4 are transverse sections on the corresponding section lines of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is an elevation of the face opposite to face of Figure 1.

Figure 6 indicates the method of using the device.

Briefly, the device consists of a flexible strip such as a sheet of rubber having elongated rubber elements of semicircular cross section applied to one face thereof and forming therewith suitable pockets for receiving the end portions only of the thumb and one or more fingers of a hand of the user, the opposite face being adapted to grip the detergent and preferably provided with a pocket to receive the detergent material when the device is not in use. The flat strip 1 is preferably provided with a reinforcing bead 2 extending around its periphery and the finger and thumb receiving pockets 3 and 4 are oppositely disposed at the two ends of the strip and that portion of the outer end of each pocket extending outwardly from the flat strip is preferably reinforced by a suitable bead 5 whereby the pockets are maintained in the open positions indicated whereby the fingers and thumb of one hand may be slipped into place in the device without the use of the other hand and the usual delay and tugging accompanying the application of the ordinary rubber glove.

The opposite face of the strip is preferably pebbled or roughened, as indicated at 6, immediately opposite the finger pockets 3. A flap 7 is applied to the lower portion of the front face of the strip and cooperates therewith to form a pocket 8 in which the detergent may be retained when the device is not in use. A hole 9 at the upper end of the device adapts the same for hanging on a nail or hook and holes 10 at the lower end of pockets 8 and 4 serve to drain water from the device.

Figure 6 illustrates a typical use of the device in which a cake of scouring material 11 is gripped between the thumb and fingers of the user which are protected by the device. The ends of the pockets are substantially alined with each other and with the ends of the flat sheet and the ends of the finger pockets are close together. The strip may bend freely intermediate the opposing ends of the finger and thumb pockets so that the thumb and fingers of the user may be manipulated substantially the same as if the device were not used.

The use of the device illustrated will avoid injury to the skin such as frequently attends the handling of strong soaps and scouring materials and particularly the use of steel wool, fine particles of which are likely to be embedded in the skin causing discomfort and infection. The device requires little material and can be easily made to sell at a nominal cost and may be hung over the wash stand or sink or work bench to drain liquid from the detergent and to avoid fouling the usual soap dish and its contents.

The details of the device may be varied and some of the features eliminated without departing from the spirit of my invention and I contemplate the exclusive use of devices coming within the spirit of my claims irrespective of modifications in structure which may be suggested in its commercial development.

What is claimed is:

1. A device of the class described comprising a flat strip of flexible material having on one side opposed pockets for receiving individually the tips only of the user's fingers and thumb, said pockets constituting exclusive means for holding the device on the hand whereby said device is adapted to be folded at any point intermediate said opposed pockets to grip detergent material.

2. A device as specified in claim 1 which includes stiffening elements extending from the flat strip for holding the outer ends of the pockets wide open to provide for ready insertion of the fingers and thumb of one hand of the user without the use of the other hand.

3. In a hand protecting device of the class de-

scribed, a flat strip of flexible material, elongated elements of semicircular cross section applied to one side of said strip to form therewith a series of pockets; said pockets extending longitudinally of said strip, being parallel and contiguous to each other, having their outer ends closed and substantially alined with each other and with one end of said strip, with their inner ends open, and being of a length to receive the tips and first joints only of the fingers of the hand of the user with such tips in the position assumed when opposing the thumb to grip an object; a single element on the same side of said strip forming therewith a separate pocket extending longitudinally thereof with its closed outer end alined with the other end of said strip and with its open inner end opposed to said first mentioned pockets to receive the first joint only of the user's thumb; said strip being free of attaching means intermediate said opposed pockets and flexing freely to permit doubling thereof along any transverse or diagonal line intermediate said pockets whereby the hand to which it is applied may assume its normal object gripping position with the tip of the thumb opposing the tips of all of the fingers to manipulate a detergent or like body substantially the same as if no protecting device was used.

KATHERINE M. UHRI.