H. L. CRANE.

MASSAGE APPARATUS.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 22, 1915.

1,177,388. Patented Mar. 28, 1916.

Fig. 1

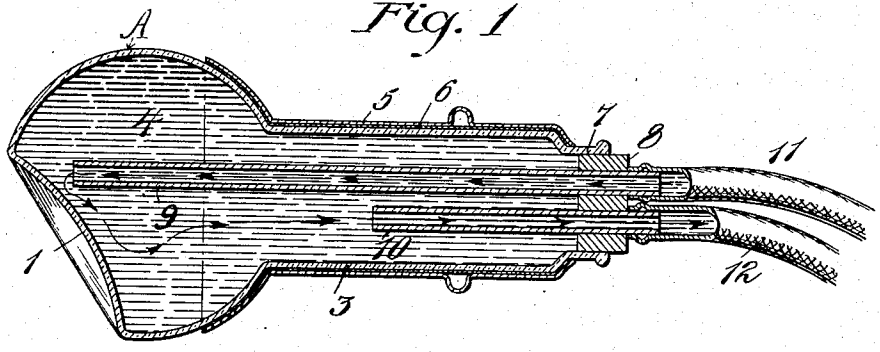


Fig. 2

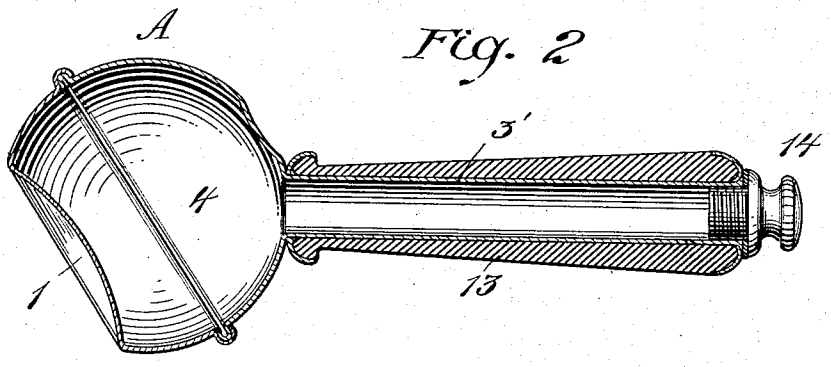
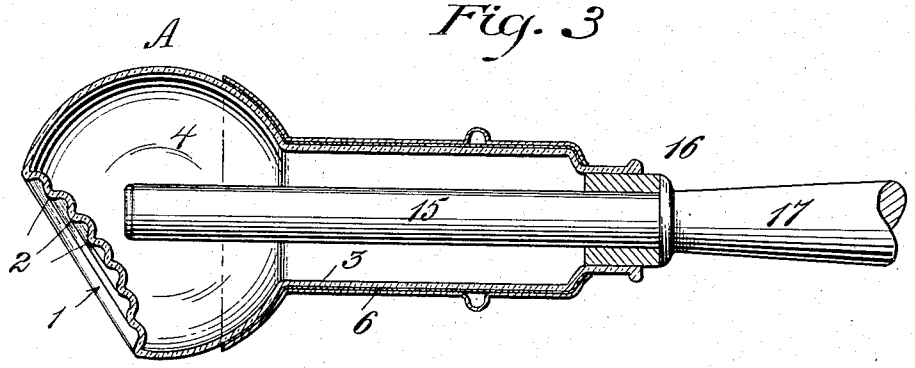


Fig. 3



WITNESSES

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MASSAGE APPARATUS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY L. CRANE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Massage Apparatus, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to a device for massaging the face and body, and the general object of the invention is the provision of a massage device which is intended for self treatment and is in the form of a hollow body having a concave surface used for massaging the tissues by the body being rubbed over the surface of the part or parts to be treated, the body being hollow so as to contain a heating or cooling medium so as to have any desired effect on the tissues.

A more specific object of the invention is the provision of a hand-operated massage device of comparatively simple, durable and inexpensive construction which embodies a handle through which the massaging body is charged with a heating or cooling medium, which latter may be air, water or other fluid confined or kept in circulation, the advantages of the device being that cold cream or salve may be effectively worked into the tissues without using the fingers; the applying or massaging surface of the device being concave causes a vacuum as the device is moved over the surface, whereby the tissues are brought into intimate contact with the device, so that rubber or other mechanical means will not be required to produce a massaging action; the body of the device being hollow can contain a heating medium for stimulating circulation through the tissues, opening the pores and allowing salve or grease to come into deeper contact with the skin, or the device can contain a cold medium for contracting the pores of the skin after the application of the heat, whereby colds and irritation are prevented; and furthermore, the device may be used for ironing out wrinkles from the skin, reducing double chins, and can be used wherever heat or cold applications are required for medical purposes in treating small surfaces.

For a more complete understanding of the invention reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings which illustrate certain embodiments and wherein similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views, in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of one form of the device in which a heating or cooling medium can be kept circulating therethrough; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of another form in which the heating or cooling medium may be confined therein; and Fig. 3 is a similar view of still another form in which the heating element is a hot rod.

Referring to the drawing, the device comprises essentially a body A which has a massaging surface 1 that is preferably concave and of any desired diameter. This surface may be smoothly concave, as shown in Fig. 1, or it may have corrugations 2, as shown in Fig. 3, so as to increase the massaging action as the surface is rubbed over the part to be treated. The body A may be made of glass, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, or it may be made of metal, as shown in Fig. 2, although it is to be understood that other materials may be employed. The body A is preferably hollow in order that it may contain a hot or cold fluid. For conveniently holding the device during use the body has a tubular handle extension 3 which is hollow and communicates with the chamber 4 of the body A. This handle may be inclosed in a metal or other shell 5 suitably fastened to the handle. If desired, a lining of insulating material 6 may be interposed between the handle extension 3 and the metallic shell, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3.

In Fig. 1 provision is made for the circulation of hot or cold water through the device. The handle 3 has an opening 7 in which is a stopper 8, and mounted in this stopper are inlet and outlet tubes 9 and 10, the former tube terminating adjacent the massaging surface 1 so that the incoming water will maintain such surface at the desired temperature. These tubes may be connected by flexible conduits 11 and 12 respectively, for conducting the water to and draining it from the device, the tube being flexible so as to provide freedom of movement during the massaging operation. It will be noted that the massaging surface 1 is at an angle to the axis of the handle so as to make it easier to maintain the surface

in contact with the parts being massaged while the hand is held in a comfortable position. Furthermore, the device may be passed more smoothly back and forth during the rubbing action.

In Fig. 2 the handle extension 3′ is surrounded by a hollow grip-piece 13 of wood or any other non-conducting material, and through this tubular handle extension 1 the water can be introduced into the body A. A screw plug 14 or equivalent means closes the tubular handle. If desired, the heat can be derived from a metal or equivalent rod 15, as shown in Fig. 3, which is inserted into the device and held in place by an asbestos or equivalent stopper 16, such rod having, if desired, a handle 17 of non-conducting material.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, the advantages of the construction and method of operation will be readily understood by those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains, and while I have described the principle of operation, together with the apparatus which I now consider to be the best embodiment thereof, I desire to have it understood that the apparatus shown is merely illustrative and that such changes may be made when desired as fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A massage device comprising a hollow approximately spherical body having a concave or depressed portion forming a massaging surface adapted to be rubbed over the part to be treated, the edge of the depressed portion being a circular line and lying in a single plane, and a handle extending from the body at a point opposite from the depression, and the axis of the handle passing through the depression and disposed at an angle to the plane of said circular line.

2. A massage device comprising a hollow approximately spherical body having a concave or depressed portion forming a massaging surface adapted to be rubbed over the part to be treated, the edge of the depressed portion being a circular line and lying in a single plane, and a handle extending from the body at a point opposite from the depression, and the axis of the handle passing through the depression and disposed at an angle to the plane of said circular line, said depressed portion having concentric corrugations all lying inwardly of the plane of the said circular line.

3. A massage device comprising a hollow body formed at one side with a concaved depression forming the massaging surface adapted to be rubbed over the part to be treated, the edge of the concaved depression lying in a common plane, a hollow handle connected with the body and through which the body is charged with a heating or cooling medium, and a closure for the said handle.

4. A massage device comprising a hollow body having a massaging surface of conducting material, a tube rigid with the body and extending outwardly therefrom for permitting a thermal medium to be supplied to the body, a non-conducting handle surrounding the tube, and a stopper for the tube, said tube having its axis passing through the said massaging surface and extending at an acute angle thereto.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY L. CRANE.

Witnesses:
C. BRADWAY,
PHILIP D. ROLLHAUS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."