Aug. 18, 1931. W. C. ROESSINGER 1,819,004

TOILET ARTICLE

Filed Oct. 10, 1930

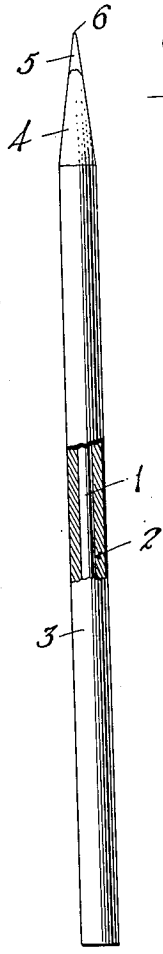


Fig. 1

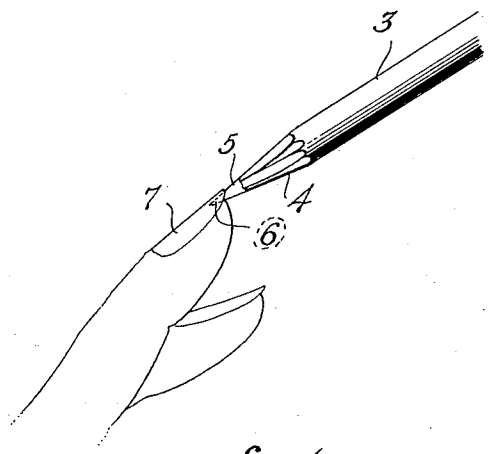


Fig. 2

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1,819,004

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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TOILET ARTICLE

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This invention relates particularly to a toilet article for use in whitening the under sides of the finger nails.

Among the objects of the invention are to provide an article of this character embodying novel and improved, simple and inexpensive features of construction and including a coating composition to be applied to the nails, enclosed within a casing or holder to project from one end thereof, and to provide such an article having the casing formed of suitable material which can be cut or broken away to expose the composition for use so that as the exposed portion of the composition is exhausted by use, a new portion may be presented for use by simply removing the end portion of the casing.

Other objects are to provide such a toilet article in which the composition is slowly soluble in water so as to soften when moistened or applied to a moistened nail, but when dry is normally stiff and hard so that it can be used for both removing dirt from beneath the nails and rubbing the composition upon the nail so as to spread the composition into a uniform coating; to provide a toilet article for the purpose described comprising a cylindrical rod of suitable composition encased and positively held in a casing of wood or other material which can be easily cut away to expose the composition, as by a knife or pencil sharpener; to provide a novel and improved composition for the purpose described, and to obtain other advantages and results as will be brought out by the following description.

Referring to the accompanying drawings in which corresponding and like parts are designated by the same reference characters throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a side elevation, partially in section, of a toilet article embodying my invention, and

Figure 2 is a fragmentary elevation of the article showing the manner of using it.

Specifically describing the present embodiment of the invention, the article includes a cylindrical stick or rod 1 of a suitable composition which under normal atmospheric conditions is hard and stiff but which when moistened is slowly soluble in water. This composition preferably includes a white pigment, for example, lithopone, zinc sulphide, zinc oxide or an equivalent which is reduced with a suitable filler such as starch, calcium carbonate, kaolin, talcum, or the like, and a binder such as gum arabic, Irish moss, gum tragacanth, dextrine, casein or the like.

One manner of forming the composition is to add one part of the filler, for example, calcium carbonate, to two parts of the pigment, for example lithopone and mechanically mix these ingredients. To one hundred parts of said mixture is added about eight and one quarter per cent by weight, of the binder, for example gum arabic. This mixture is then shaped into the cylindrical form in any suitable manner, such as the method commonly used in making lead pencil leads. The composition under atmospheric conditions is hard and stiff, but it may be softened or slowly dissolved in water.

The rod or stick 1 is positively secured in any suitable manner as by glue in an axial opening 2 in a cylindrical casing or holder 3 which is formed of any suitable material which can be cut or broken away, for example wood.

To use the article, one end of the casing is cut away or sharpened as at 4, as is a lead pencil, so as to expose an end portion 5 of the rod or stick 1. This end of the rod or stick is also sharpened or pointed as at 6. Either the exposed portion 5 of the composition, or the nail 7 to be treated, is then moistened, after which the pointed end 6 of the composition stick is inserted beneath the nail and rubbed against the under side thereof, as clearly shown in Figure 2 of the drawings. The hardness and stiffness and slow softening of the composition enables the pointed end of the stick to be used both for removing dirt from beneath the nail and for rubbing the composition into a uniform coating over the under side of the nail. After this operation the composition hardens on the nail and a white and clean appearance of the nail is produced. The coating can be removed by a subsequent identical operation.

After the exposed portion of the composition stick has been exhausted by use, a new

portion may be presented for use by cutting away the end of the casing 3.

Preferably the composition stick 1 is of such diameter that when pointed it is of such size as to easily enter beneath the nail and conform more or less to the shape of the space between the nail and the tip of the finger. Also, the casing 3 is preferably of such a diameter as a lead pencil, so that the casing can be sharpened in the usual pencil sharpener. The article having such proportions is also very convenient for use and carrying in a hand bag or the like, and the casing protects the composition stick against breaking and maintains the unexposed portion in clean and sanitary condition.

Instead of a casing of wood or similar material, I may use a casing formed of a helically wound paper strip, as in writing pencils, whereby the stick can be exposed by unwinding and tearing off a piece of said strip. Also, I may utilize a metal or like casing having mechanical means for projecting the stick from the casing for use and retracting the stick into the casing when desired, for example mechanism such as utilized in so-called mechanical pencils.

The article constructed as described also economizes in the use of the composition as well as enabling neat application of the composition to the nail; in other words, only so much of the composition as is necessary for the purpose is applied to the nail, and soiling of the finger tip by excess composition is avoided. Furthermore, no additional implement, such as an orange stick is necessary for applying the composition to the nail.

While I have shown and described the invention as embodied in certain details of construction, it should be understood that this is primarily for the purpose of illustrating the principles of the invention, and the shape and construction of the article may be varied by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention. Furthermore, other compositions than those described, suitable for the purpose, may be utilized. Therefore, I do not desire to be understood as limiting myself except as required by the following claims when construed in the light of the prior art.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A toilet article for whitening finger nails, comprising a white coating composition which is hard and stiff under normal atmospheric conditions, will slowly soften when moistened and adhere to a nail when rubbed thereon in moistened condition, and will then harden and form a white coating on the nail.

2. A toilet article for whitening finger nails, comprising a stick of a white coating composition which is hard and stiff under normal atmospheric conditions, will slowly soften when moistened and adhere to a nail when rubbed thereon in moistened condition and then harden to form a white coating on the nail, and a casing in which said stick is positively secured, said casing being formed of material capable of being cut away to expose a portion of said stick for use.

3. The article set forth in claim 1 wherein the composition consists of a white pigment, a filler, and a binder.

4. A toilet article of the character described, comprising a coating composition which is hard and stiff under normal atmospheric conditions, will slowly soften when moistened and adhere to the nail when rubbed thereon in moistened condition, and will then harden and form a colored coating on the nail.

5. A toilet article of the character described, comprising a stick of coating composition which is hard and stiff under normal atmospheric conditions, will slowly soften when moistened and adhere to the nail when rubbed thereon in moistened condition and then harden to form a colored coating on the nail, and a casing in which said stick is positively secured, said casing being formed of material capable of being removed to expose a portion of said stick for use.

6. A toilet article of the character described, comprising a stick of coating composition which is hard and stiff under normal atmospheric conditions and which will slowly soften when moistened and adhere to the nail when rubbed thereon, said composition comprising about one part of filler to two parts of pigment and about 8% by weight of binder.

7. A toilet article of the character described, comprising a stick of coating composition which is hard and stiff under normal atmospheric conditions and which will slowly soften when moistened and adhere to the nail when rubbed thereon, said composition comprising about one part of filler to two parts of pigment and about 8% by weight of binder, and a casing in which said stick is secured, said casing being formed of material capable of being removed to expose a portion of said stick for use.

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