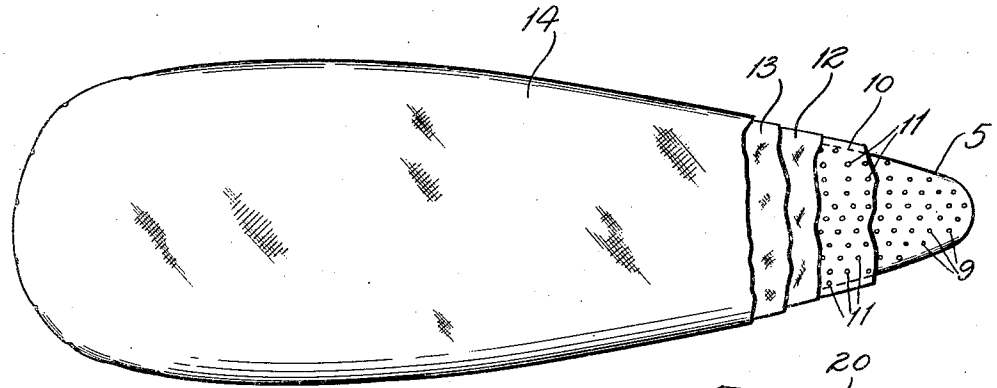
April 17, 1928. 1,666,870

S. E. BECK

IRONING OR PRESSING MACHINE PAD

Filed Jan. 25, 1926

Fig. 1



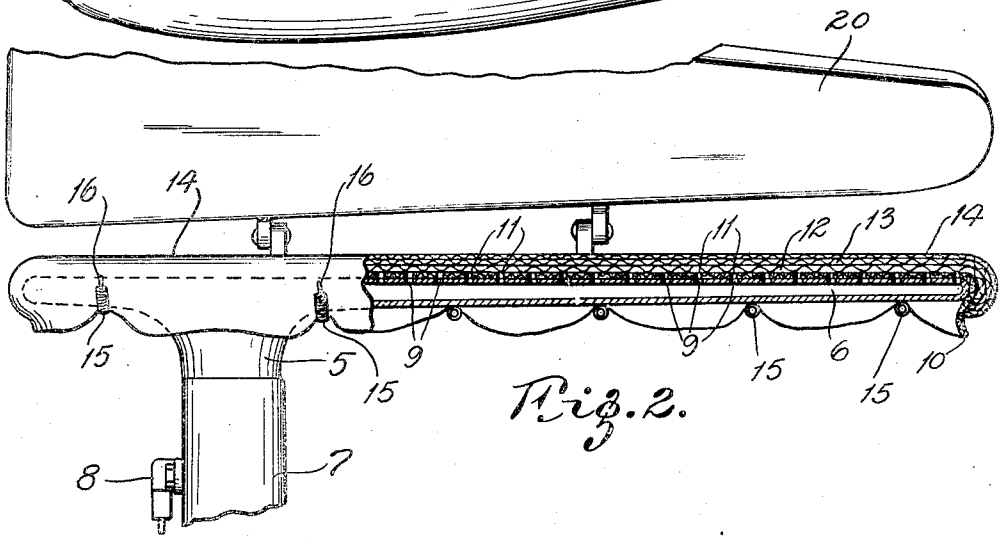


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

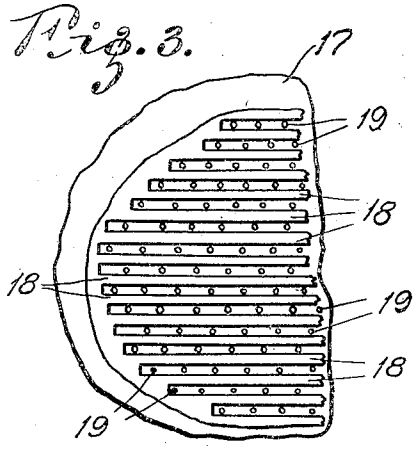
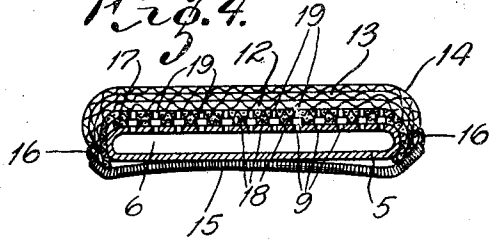


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN E. BECK, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

IRONING OR PRESSING MACHINE PAD.

Application filed January 25, 1926. Serial No. 83,526.

My invention relates to improvements in ironing or pressing machine pads, and has for its primary object a pad which is so constructed and arranged that its life is greatly lengthened thereby materially reducing the cost of operation of the machine.

A further object is to construct a pad for pressing machines composed of various layers, the layer adjacent the buck or steaming head being constructed of material which will protect the layers above it from the intense heat of the head but which, at the same time, will permit the steam to pass readily therethrough. Heretofore the wool felt pads were placed directly on the buck or steaming head and were consequently in contact therewith. This head, as is well known, becomes intensely heated and in a short time the wool or cotton felt padding had all the life taken out of it and disintegrated or crumbled in a very short time as did also the cloth covering which was placed over the felt padding.

My improvement consists in placing a reticulated or perforated sheet of asbestos on top of the buck or steaming head and then place the remainder of the padding in position in the usual manner. By this construction I have found that the device operates just as readily and easily and at the same time the life of the padding and outer cover is lengthened to three or four times the life of unprotected padding.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of a buck or steaming head with parts broken away showing the position of the various layers of padding thereon;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same with parts broken away and in section;

Fig. 3 is a fragmental bottom plan view of a modified form of heat resisting pad; and

Fig. 4 is a cross section taken through the steaming head with the heat resisting pad of Fig. 3 located thereon and showing the position and manner of securing the various pads and covers on the head.

In the construction of my device, 5 represents a buck or steaming head which is hollow as indicated by the numeral 6. This head is supported on a standard or pillar 7 which is provided with a valve 8. This valve is for the purpose of permitting steam fed from a boiler (not shown) to the interior of the head. The upper surface of the head is provided with a plurality of perforations 9 through which steam passes out from the head. Placed over the top surface of the head is a sheet 10 which is preferably an asbestos sheet containing in addition to the asbestos a fine wire mesh and also some rubber. Asbestos constructed in this manner can be bought in the open market, and my purpose in preferring to use it is that it does not tear as readily as plain asbestos cloth will, although the plain asbestos cloth can also be used if desired. The asbestos cloth 10 is provided with a plurality of reticulations or perforations 11, which are either of the same or of larger diameter than the openings 9 and preferably register therewith when the sheet 10 is placed in position. It will be noted from Fig. 2 that the asbestos sheet is considerably wider and longer than the steaming head so that it hangs down on all sides. Placed on the sheet 10 is a resilient fibrous pad 12. This pad is preferably a very loose weave cotton or wool felt such as is specially made and sold for pressing machines. On top of the pad 12 is placed a second pad 13 of the same construction as the pad 12. Over this is placed a cloth cover 14. This cloth cover is preferably of light duck, canvas or drilling. This cover is preferably held in position by means of springs 15 which have hooks 16 at each end. The hooks are adapted to be inserted into the cover 14, the spring being located below or on the under side of the buck or steaming head. (See Figs. 2 and 4.)

In the construction of the modified form shown in Fig. 3, the under surface of the asbestos pad 17 is provided with a plurality of longitudinally extending ribs 18 and between these ribs are perforations 19. The ribs are intended to be located so as to extend between the perforations 9 in the buck or steaming head so as to form channels and permit unrestricted passage of the steam along the underside of the asbestos cover 17 (see Fig. 4). 20 represents the upper or pressing head which is hinged and is designed to be brought down over the buck or steaming head.

The operation of my device is as follows: After the several pads have been placed on the steaming head with the asbestos pad next to the steaming head, a portion of a garment is placed on the cover 14 in the shape in which it is to be pressed, the head 20 is then brought down over the garment

and pressure applied thereto. The steam valve 8 is opened permitting live steam to enter the steaming head. This live steam passes out through the openings 9 in the head and openings 11 in the pad 10 in the form of jets. From there it must pass through the felt pads 12 and 13 which break up the jets and distribute the steam so as to permit it to come up through the cover 14 in the form of a cloud or vapor. In other words the pads 12 and 13, in addition to forming a resilient surface, also act as distributors for the steam, that is break up the individual jets and cause the steam to issue in a cloud from the cover and from there pass into the garment to be pressed, moistening it. It is to be understood, of course, that the head 20 is also steam heated but does not have any perforations. In the event that the openings 11 of the pad 10 do not register with the openings 9, the steam issuing from the openings 9 will have sufficient pressure to cause the pad 10 to bulge up from the upper surface of the steaming head sufficiently far to permit the steam to flow along between the pad and head and out through the openings 11. That portion of the pad 10, which extends down around the sides of the steaming head and being in contact with the highly heated metal portion, in a short time seats itself tightly and prevents any possibility of the steam leaking around to the underside of the head and thus be lost, and I have found that this seating becomes so tight that it requires considerable force to remove the asbestos pad, but at the same time that portion of the pad 10 adjacent the openings 9, which would be that on top or on the working face of the steaming head, never sets tightly because there is always a sufficient amount of moisture present to prevent this.

While I have shown and described my device as being used for a pressing machine in which the lower member constitutes the steaming head, I do not desire to limit myself thereto as there are types of machines on the market in which the upper head is the steaming head and the lower head the ironing head. My device can also be used on machines where both heads are steaming heads. In this event an asbestos pad would have to be used for each head. Neither do I desire to limit myself to the peculiar shape of pressing machine shown as there are machines of various designs, each for a separate pressing operation on which my device or pad can be used to advantage. Heretofore on pressing machines, the maintenance of the padding was considerable as the felt pads were bought in sheets and cost several dollars a yard and for the ordinary trouser pressing machine, each pad took slightly over a yard of padding so that the cost of felt padding was considerable and without the use of the asbestos pad, this felt padding had to be removed three or four times a month, and sometimes oftener, depending on the amount of use the machine was put to. By using my asbestos pad, I find that the operation of the machine is not interfered with at all and one set of pads will last from thirty to forty days.

The essential feature of my device, however, is the reticulated asbestos pad as I have found that an asbestos pad without the reticulations or perforations will not function properly because it offers too much resistance to the passage of the steam and this steam attempting to escape between the steaming head and asbestos pad seeks the path of least resistance, which is around the edges of the steaming head so that a great amount of steam is thus lost. This not only makes inferior work but also increases the cost of operating the machine considerably on account of the waste of both fuel and water to furnish the extra steam required.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. In a device of the class described a sheet of asbestos provided on its under surface with a plurality of closely spaced parallel ribs and having perforations therethrough between said ribs, a loosely woven fibrous pad superimposed on said asbestos sheet, a closely woven fabric covering for said pad, and means for tautly securing said covering over the face of the steaming head of a pressing machine whereby said pad and said asbestos sheet are held on said steaming head and steam can readily pass from said head to an article being pressed.

2. In a device of the class described a sheet of asbestos having a reinforcement therein and having a plurality of laterally spaced longitudinally extending grooves in its underneath surface and within its edges, there being perforations formed through said sheet, which communicate with said grooves, a loosely woven fibrous pad located on said asbestos sheet, a sheet of closely woven fabric of greater area than said pad and asbestos sheet located on said pad, and means engaging with said fabric sheet for securing the same and the pad and asbestos sheet to the steaming head of a pressing machine in such a manner that steam can pass from said head into said grooves and through the perforations and pad to the article being pressed.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

STEPHEN E. BECK.