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1,553,775

M. HERTZ

COMBINED SPONGE AND SOAP

Filed Jan. 5, 1924

*Fig. 1.*

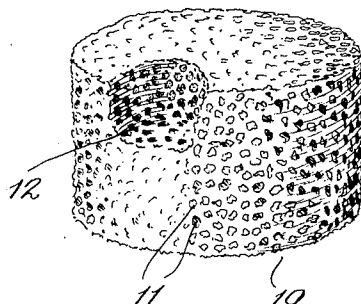


*Fig. 2.*

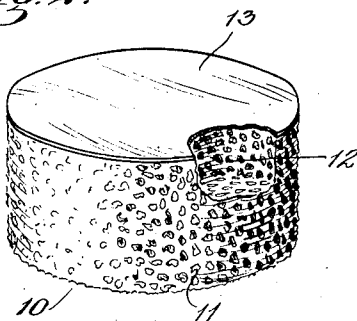
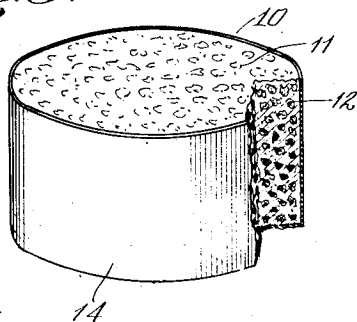


*Fig. 3.*



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAURICE HERTZ, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

COMBINED SPONGE AND SOAP.

Application filed January 5, 1924. Serial No. 684,500.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that MAURICE HERTZ, subject of the Government of Austria, residing at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, has invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Sponge and Soap, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in combined sponge and soap. More particularly, it is directed to a sponge adapted for toilet use, especially for shaving purposes.

One object thereof is to provide an article of the character described which may be easily used in lathering and rubbing in the beard prior to shaving without necessitating the use of separate shaving soap or a brush.

Another object thereof is to provide an article of the character described which shall be sanitary and efficient in use to a high degree.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described and of which the scope of application will be indicated in the following claims.

In the accompanying drawing,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a sponge embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of another embodiment thereof showing a modified form; and

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of still another embodiment of my invention showing another modified form.

Referring in detail to the drawing, my newly improved shaving sponge comprises a spongy body 10 preferably of rubber and suitably shaped as shown in the drawing where I have illustrated a cylindrically shaped sponge member. Within the pores 11 of the sponge, I provide soap 12 in powdered form such as shaving soap, where the sponge is to be used for shaving purposes. This soap powder is held within the sponge in such manner as to be dispensed only upon moistening of the sponge and rubbing it against the surface to be lathered or massaged.

Various methods may readily occur to one

skilled in the art as to how to impregnate the sponge with the soap so as to be retained in the pores in this manner. Preferably, I first moisten the sponge slightly and then dip the sponge into the soap powder a sufficient depth so as to fill a substantial portion of the sponge body with the soap. I then wrap the sponge in glazed paper or the like covering of heat resistant and air proof material and seal the wrapper in any suitable manner. I then place the sealed sponge into a steam sterilizer, such for example as employed in hospitals. During the sterilization, the heat causes the soap powder to become impregnated within the pores of the sponge. I have found that a sponge treated in this manner if sterilized does not show the soap within it so thorough is the impregnation. When the sterilization is complete, the steam is turned off and then the sterilizing chamber heated so as to dry the sponges therein with hot air.

In the practical use of the device, it is my purpose to sell the sponges made in accordance with this invention in sealed form as described to be opened only by the barber or other such person when the sponge is to be used. For insuring absolute sanitary use, a sponge should not be reused after having once been used. However, the used sponge need not be entirely discarded but it may be again made sterile and sanitary in any suitable manner. Thus, for example, used sponges may be placed in a washing tank and washed and rinsed. After being so washed and the moisture has been wrung from the sponge, it may be again filled with the shaving powder in the manner already described. The refilled sponge is then again placed in a sanitary wrapper and sterilized and dried in the manner already described.

In Fig. 2 I have shown a modified form in which the bottom of the sponge has permanently secured thereto a smooth rubber layer 13 of substantial thickness so that the sponge may be held by the hand without danger of the moisture therein being squeezed out into the hand during the use of the sponge.

In Fig. 3 I have shown another modified form in which the cover 14 is formed to extend not only over the body of the sponge but over a substantial portion of the walls thereof.

It will thus be seen that there is provided a device in which the several objects of this

invention are achieved and which is well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use.

As various possible embodiments might be made of the above invention and as various changes might be made in the embodiment above set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawing is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

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

1. An article of manufacture of the character described comprising a spongy body having soap held within the pores thereof and a moisture proof covering permanently secured to an exterior side of said body, said covering and body being formed of a relatively non-wearable pliable material.

2. An article of manufacture comprising

a spongy body with soap, said body having an exterior portion thereof permanently covered with a pliable, resilient and relatively non-wearable moisture-proof material, said article normally being resilient and pliable throughout.

3. An article of manufacture of the character described comprising a spongy body impregnated with soap and a moisture proof rubber covering secured on a portion of the exterior of the body, said article being resilient and pliable throughout.

4. An article of manufacture of the character described comprising a rubber sponge body having soap held within the pores thereof and a moisture proof rubber covering permanently formed with an exterior portion of the body, said article being resilient and pliable throughout.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MAURICE HERTZ