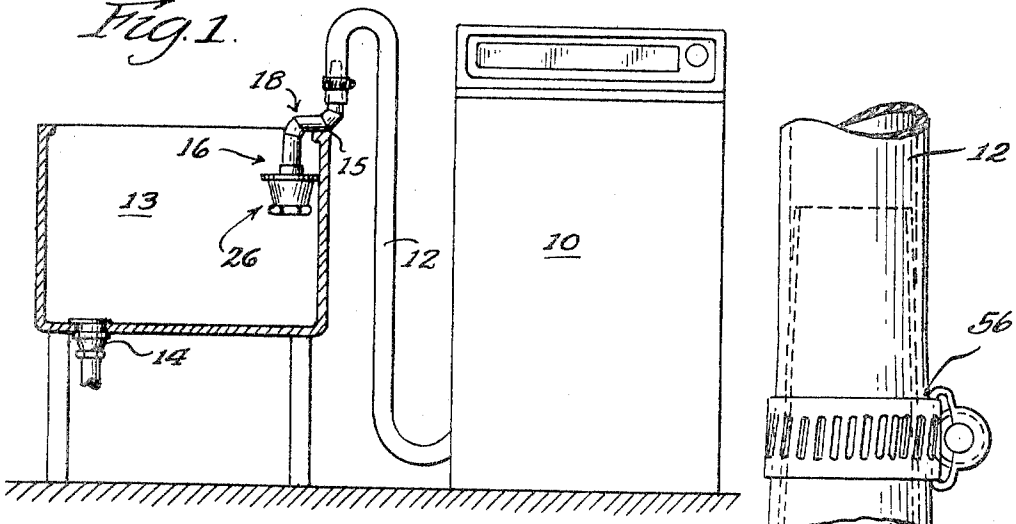
Jan. 6, 1970 B. TUCKER 3,487,944

TRAP FOR COLLECTING LINT DISCHARGED FROM A WASHING MACHINE

Filed Feb. 2, 1968

Fig. 1.



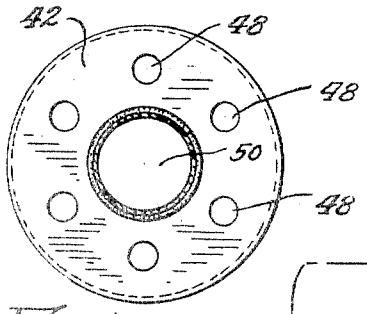


Fig. 3.

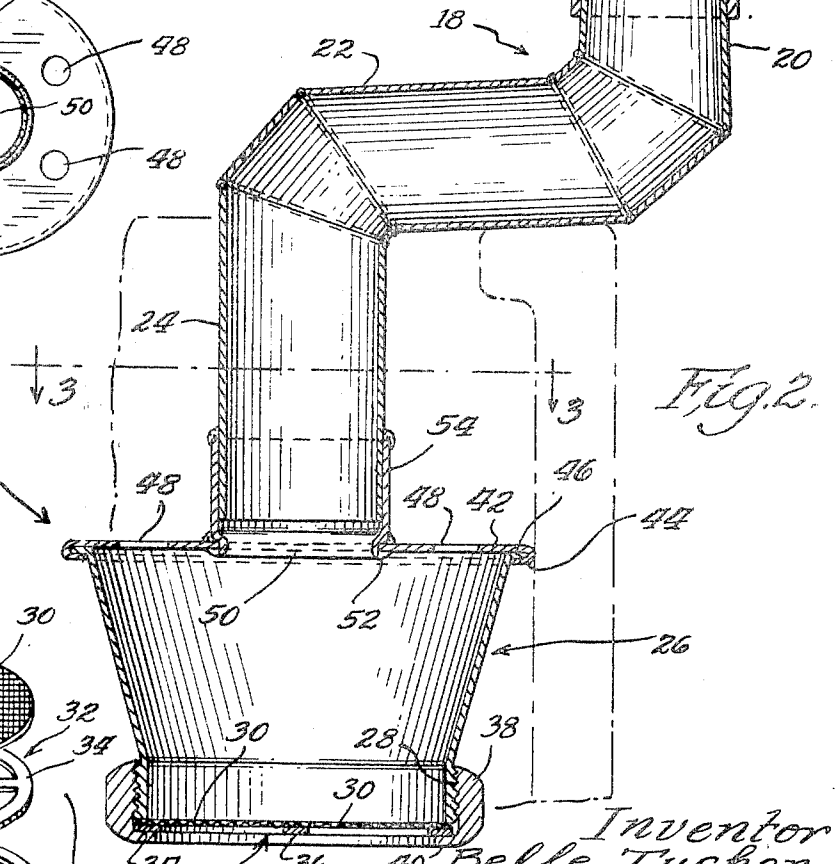


Fig. 2.

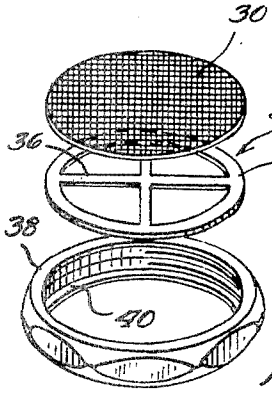


Fig. 4.

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TRAP FOR COLLECTING LINT DISCHARGED FROM A WASHING MACHINE

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A lint trap connected to the outlet end of a hose through which the water and lint passes from a washing machine, whereby the lint is trapped so that it does not enter the drain pipe of the sink or basin. The unit has a pipe which is shaped to permit it to be supported on the ledge of the sink.

As is well known, one of the problems in the discharge of the water from a washing machine is that the water carries with it the lint from the clothes or other articles that are washed. The outlet pipe or hose of the washing machine is positioned so that the water and the lint empty into a sink or basin and in a short period of time the lint will clog the sink drain causing the water being emptied into the sink to back up and overflow and may also prevnt the discharge of water and lint from the washing machine. The clogging of the sink drain makes it necessary to clean it frequently and sometimes requires the use of tools and the like.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide a trap which is readily attachable to the outlet hose of the washing machine so that as the water and lint pass from the washing machine through the trap the lint will be trapped, yet permit the water to continue to flow therethrough and be discharged into the sink. The trap can be readily cleansed and the lint can be emptied into a wastebasket or other receptacle or otherwise disposed of.

Another object of this invention is to provide a lint trap which is readily attachable to and detachable from any conventional outlet pipe of a washing machine and in which the lint trap may be easily and readily cleansed of the lint therein trapped.

Another object of this invention is to provide a lint trap provided with an overflow outlet so that if the lint trapped therein clogs the outlet of the trap and prevents the flow of the water that the water will flow through the overflow outlet, putting the person on notice that the trap is filled with lint and has to be emptied.

Another object of this invention is to provide a very simple and inexpensive device.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a view showing the application of the invention to a washing machine and the manner in which it is associated with the sink.

FIG. 2 is an enlarged central sectional view showing the invention.

FIG. 3 is a reduced plan view partly in section taken on lines 3—3 of FIG. 2, and

FIG. 4 is an exploded perspective view of certain of the parts.

The conventional washing machine, generally indicated by the numeral **10**, is provided with a flexible hose or pipe, generally indicated at **12**, through which the water and the lint from the washing machine passes and empties into a conventional sink **13** having the usual drain **14**. The lint trap forming this invention is generally indicated by the numeral **16** and said trap is adapted to be secured to the outlet end of the flexible hose or tube **12** so that the water will pass through the trap before it empties into the sink

13 and the lint will be trapped in the trap. The trap **16** can be readily cleansed.

The device includes a tubular member, pipe or condiut, designated by the numeral **18**, made of metal, plastic or other rigid material. The tube or pipe is preferably of the shape best shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, which is of a generally L-shaped configuration with a depending portion extending from the base of the L-shaped portion and same consists of an upper vertically extending tube section **20**, an intermediate horizontal tube section **22** and a lower vertically extending tube section **24**, all integrally formed.

Connected to the outlet end of the lower tube section **24** is a housing or trap body, generally indicated at **26**. The lower exterior wall of said housing or trap body is externally threaded as at **28**. A screen **30** formed of wire or other material and of circular shape is positioned against the outlet end of the trap body **26**, with a supporting member **32** positioned below the screen. The supporting member **32** comprises an annular ring **34** with a central cross-shaped member **36** extending inside the ring and integrally formed therewith. An internally threaded screw cap or ring **38** having a lower circumferential lip or shoulder **40** is threadedly secured to the threads **28** of the trap body **26** so that the screen and support member rest on the shoulder **40**. This supports the screen **30** and supporting member **32** in a detachably secured position adjacent the outlet end of the trap body **26**.

The upper end of the trap body **26** is closed by a circular plate **42** having an inwardly turned peripheral lip **44** which is crimped to the annular flange **46** to secure the plate **42** to the trap body. The plate **42** has spaced openings **48**. The openings **48** permit the overflow of the water should the screen **30** become clogged. Thus, water entering the trap body **26** will flow out through the top openings **48** if it cannot flow out through the screen **30**. This serves as a warning that the trap is filled with lint and needs to be cleansed. The plate cover **42** has a central opening **50** to which is crimped as at **52** a short tubular extension **54** which is fixedly secured to the lower conduit section **24**. The pipe or conduit **18** is thus fixedly connected to the trap body **26**.

The upper section **20** of the pipe of the lint trap unit is secured to the flexible pipe or hose **12** by inserting the upper section **20** into the outlet end of the flexible hose **12** and then placing a clamp **56** around the flexible pipe to clamp the two together. The clamp can be any strap clamp well-known in the art.

While there is shown a pipe or conduit **18** of L-shaped configuration with a dependent portion **24**, this shape is primarily to permit the unit to be positioned on the ledge **15** of the basin or sink **13**, as shown in FIG. 1. As shown, the horizontal section **22** of the pipe **18** will rest on the ledge **15** and support the trap inside the sink **13** adjacent one of the walls of the sink. It will of course be understood that in lieu of the particular shape of pipe **18** the pipe may be straight, with the trap housing and the other elements as shown and described.

The water and lint from the washing machine **10** will pass through the flexible outlet tube **12**, through the pipe or conduit **18** into the trap body or housing **26**. The screen **30** will prevent the lint from passing through the trap body **26**, however, the water will continue to flow through the screen **30** into the sink or basin **13** and will empty through the sink outlet pipe or drain **14**. The lint will remain trapped in the trap body **26**. When the trap body **26** becomes filled with lint, it will be removed therefrom by unscrewing the screw ring **38** which permits the removal of the screen **30** and support **32**. The lint is removed from the bottom open end of the trap body **26**. The screen **30** can then be washed. The parts are then reassembled and connected to the trap body **26**.

It will be understood that various changes and modifications may be made from the foregoing without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A device for trapping the lint discharged with the flow of water through an outlet conduit of a washing machine, said device comprising a lint trap housing connectible to the outlet conduit, said lint trap housing having non-perforate sides and having a discharge opening at the bottom thereof, a screen extending across the bottom discharge opening whereby the water is permitted to pass through the screen at the bottom but the lint is retained in said lint trap housing, said screen being detachably secured to the bottom of said housing for removal therefrom for cleaning same, said device having means adapted to rest on the ledge of a sink or the like to support said device, said lint trap having an upper end connected to the outlet conduit of the washing machine, said lint trap housing having at least one large opening as compared to the openings in the screen in the upper portion thereof to permit overflow of water when the screen is obstructed.

2. A structure as defined in claim 1 in which the upper end of the lint trap is connected to a rigid conduit which

is of generally L-shaped configuration with a vertically extending depending portion, with the upper end of said rigid conduit connected to the outlet conduit of the washing machine.

3. A structure as defined in claim 2 in which the horizontally extending portion of the L-shaped conduit is adapted to rest on the ledge of a sink or the like to support same.

4. A structure as defined in claim 2 in which the vertically depending portion of the L-shaped conduit is connected to the lint trap housing and in which the large opening in the lint trap housing is adjacent the vertically depending portion.

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