

March 25, 1952

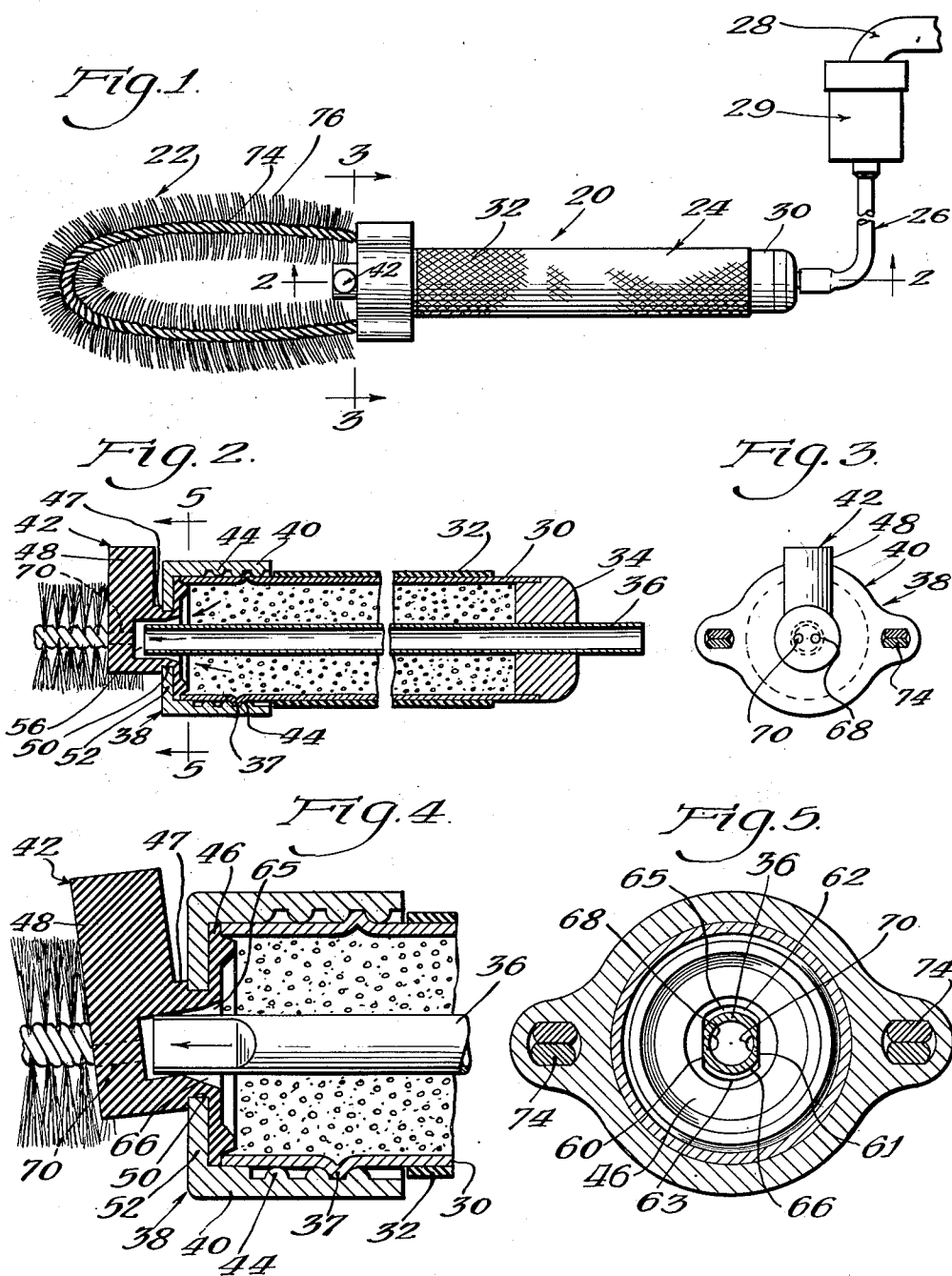
C. H. SCHAAR ET AL

2,590,353

WASHING APPARATUS

Filed Jan. 14, 1948

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Fig. 6.

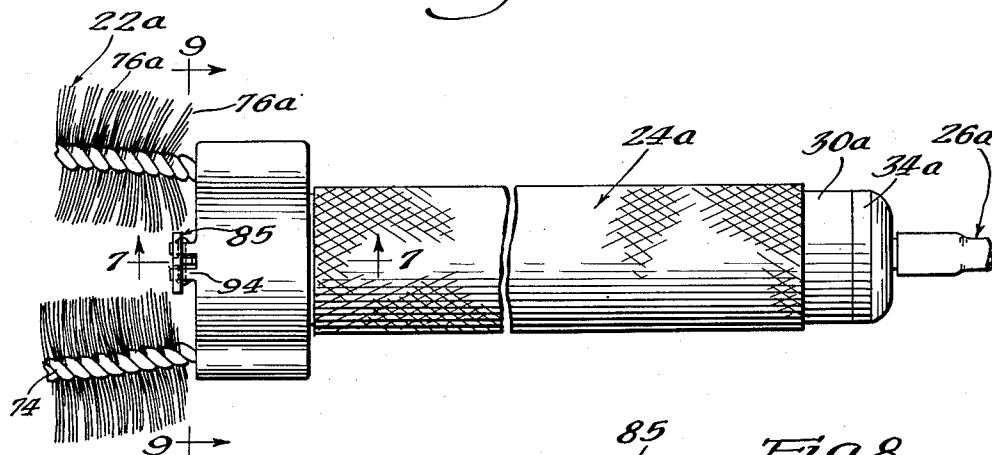


Fig. 7.

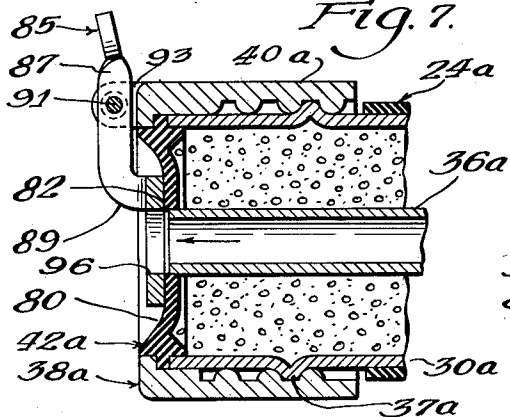


Fig. 8.

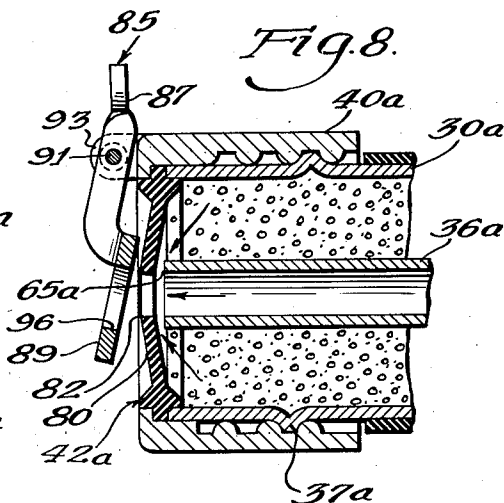
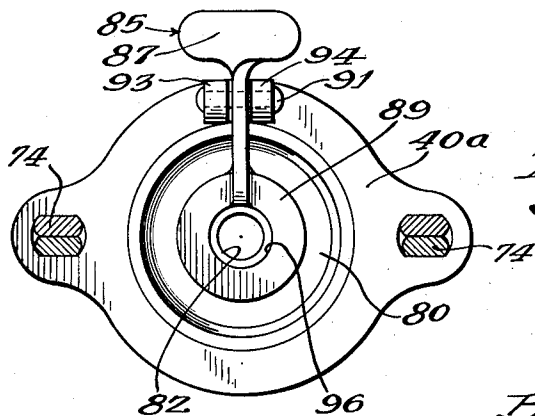


Fig. 9.



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3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 10.

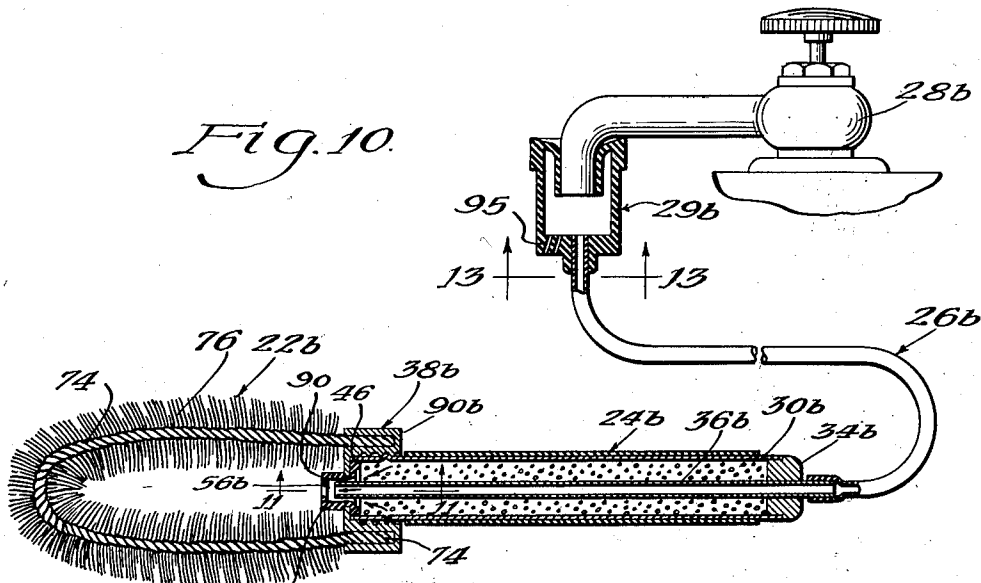


Fig. 11.

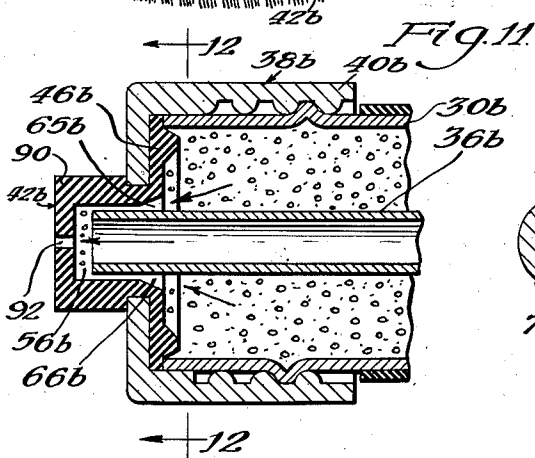


Fig. 12.

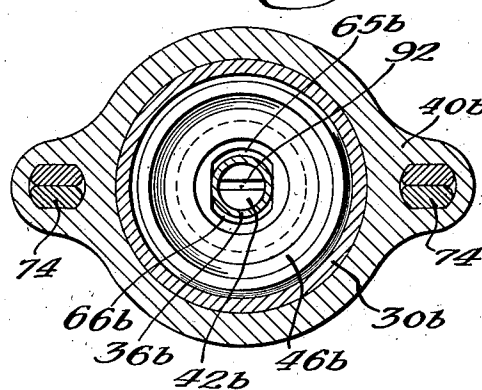
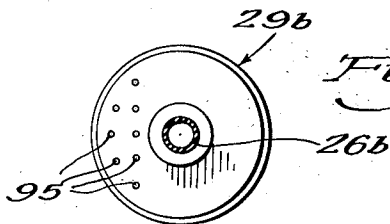


Fig. 13.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,590,353

WASHING APPARATUS

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Application January 14, 1948, Serial No. 2,294

10 Claims. (Cl. 299—83)

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This invention relates to washing and scrubbing apparatus and more specifically to washing and scrubbing apparatus of the brushing or rubbing type adapted to be used by hand in washing dishes and the like.

An exemplification of washing apparatus to which this invention generally pertains is to be found in United States Letters Patent No. 2,545,110, issued on March 13, 1951 on our co-pending application, Serial No. 771,930, filed September 3, 1947.

It is a primary object of our invention to provide a novel washing and scrubbing apparatus which may be used to manually wash and rinse dishes, and which will efficiently wash dishes without the necessity of placing them in a container of soapy water or a like solution, and by which either clear or soapy water may selectively be fed in a novel and expeditious manner through the apparatus onto the dish, or the like, being washed.

Another object is to provide a novel apparatus of the aforementioned type in which a supply of soap, or the like, can be contained, and through which apparatus water may be selectively fed in a novel and expeditious manner to be discharged with a portion of the soap, or the like, in solution therewith for washing purposes, or as clear water for rinsing purposes.

A further object of our invention is to construct washing apparatus of the aforementioned type in such a manner that the entrance of soap, or the like, into solution with water flowing through the apparatus may be controlled in a novel and expeditious manner.

Another object is to construct washing apparatus embodying a novel valve member for selectively controlling the flow of washing solution and rinsing water through the apparatus.

Yet another object of our invention is to construct washing apparatus of the type adapted to contain a supply of soap, or the like, therein, and embodying a member for feeding water into the apparatus for discharge therefrom with a portion of the aforesaid soap in solution therewith, and a valve member which is normally spaced from the water feeding member during a working operation, and which, through its position relative to the water feeding member, is effective to control the amount of soap entering into solution with water flowing through the apparatus.

A further object of our invention is to afford a novel washing apparatus of the aforementioned type which embodies a valve member associated with a member for feeding water into the apparatus in such a manner that the valve member

may be selectively moved into and out of engagement with the waterfeeding member to thereby selectively control in a novel and expeditious manner, the discharge of washing solution and rinsing water from the apparatus.

Still a further object of our invention is to construct a novel washing apparatus for manually washing and rinsing dishes, and the like, wherein a washing solution may be fed into a scrubbing or brushing member adapted to be applied to the dishes to be washed, and wherein a stream of clear rinsing water may be directed onto the dishes without contacting the scrubbing or brushing member.

Other and further objects of the present invention will be apparent from the following description and claims and are illustrated in the accompanying drawings which, by way of illustration, show a preferred embodiment and the principles thereof and what we now consider to be the best mode in which we have contemplated applying those principles. Other embodiments of the invention embodying the same or equivalent principles may be used and structural changes may be made as desired by those skilled in the art without departing from the present invention and the purview of the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a washing and scrubbing apparatus embodying the principle of our invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken substantially along the line 2—2 in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken substantially along the line 3—3 in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail sectional view corresponding to Fig. 2 but showing the valve in a different operation position;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail sectional view taken substantially along the line 5—5 in Fig. 2;

Fig. 6 is an elevational view showing a modified form of our apparatus;

Fig. 7 is a detail sectional view taken substantially along the line 7—7 in Fig. 6;

Fig. 8 is a detail sectional view similar to Fig. 7 but showing the parts thereof in a different operative position;

Fig. 9 is a sectional view taken substantially along the line 9—9 in Fig. 6;

Fig. 10 is a partially elevational view and partially sectional view similar to Fig. 1 but showing a modified form of our invention;

Fig. 11 is an enlarged detail sectional view taken substantially along the line 11—11 in Fig. 10;

Fig. 12 is a sectional view taken substantially along the line 12—12 in Fig. 11; and

Fig. 13 is a sectional view taken substantially along the line 13—13 in Fig. 10.

The washing apparatus 20 shown in Figs. 1-5, inclusive, to illustrate a preferred form of our invention, embodies, in general, a brushing member 22 connected to one end of a body member 24, the other end of which is connected to a flexible tube 26, by which the washing apparatus may be connected to a suitable supply of water such as a faucet 28, the tube 26 having a coupling member 29 thereon for this purpose. As will be discussed in greater detail presently, a supply of soap or a suitable detergent may be contained in the body member 24 and, during operation of our washing apparatus, water may be fed from the faucet 28 through the flexible tube 26 and the body member 24 from whence it is discharged adjacent to the brushing member 22, suitable valve means being provided to selectively control the flow of water through the body member 24 and thereby determine whether water, having soap in solution therewith for washing purposes, or clear water, for rinsing purposes, will be discharged from the body member 24.

The body member 24 comprises a cylindrical-shaped casing 30, Figs. 1 and 2, which affords a handle for our novel apparatus, a cover 32 made of suitable insulating material such as rubber, being mounted on the casing 30 and forming a heat insulating pad therefor to protect the hand of the operator when hot water is passed through the casing 30 as will be discussed in greater detail presently. A plug member 34 is mounted in one end of the casing 30 and a tubular member 36 is mounted therein and supported thereby in spaced relation to the side walls of the casing 30, one end of the tubular member 36 being connected to the flexible tube 26 as is best seen in Fig. 1. The plug member 34 is preferably made of a relatively resilient material such as, for example, soft rubber or the like, and engages the tubular member 36 in such a manner that the tubular member 36 is relatively firmly held in position in the casing 30.

The other end portion of the casing 30 has exterior threads 37 formed thereon and an end member 38 comprising a connecting member or collar 40 and a valve member 42 is mounted on this other end portion of the casing 30, the connecting member 40 having internal threads 44 formed therein which are complementary to and are engaged with the external threads 37.

The valve member 42 comprises a collar member 46 and an actuating member or pushbutton 48 connected thereto. The valve member 42 is preferably made of a relatively resilient material such as, for example, soft rubber, and may be inserted into position in the connecting member 40 by pressing the collar member 46 together and inserting it through the opening 50 formed in the connecting member 40, the front wall 52 of the connecting member 40 being then positioned between the collar member 46 and the pushbutton 48 of the valve member 42 to hold the valve member in assembled position thereon.

A depression or opening is formed in the collar member 46 and the pushbutton 48 of the valve member 42 to afford a chamber 56 in the valve member having side walls 60 and 61, a top wall 62 and a bottom wall 63, Fig. 5. As is best seen in Figs. 2 and 5 when the plug member 34, the tubular member 36 and the end member 38, are mounted in operative position on the casing 30

the front end of the tubular member 36 extends into the chamber 56 in the valve member 42, the side walls 60 and 61 of the chamber 56 being normally engaged with the side walls of the tubular member 36, and the top wall 62 and the bottom wall 63 of the chamber 56 being normally spaced from the upper and lower portions of the side wall of the tubular member 36 to thereby afford passageways 65 and 66 interconnecting the interior of casing 30 with that portion of the chamber 56 positioned ahead of the front end portion of the tubular member 36. Two passageways 68 and 70, Figs. 2, 3 and 5, extend outwardly from the chamber 56 through the pushbutton 48 of the valve member 42 and afford passageways through which liquid may be discharged outwardly from the body member 34, as will be discussed in greater detail presently.

The connecting member 40 of the end member 38 may be made of any suitable material such as, for example, a phenol-formaldehyde resin, and the brushing member 22 is preferably mounted thereon. Thus it will be noted that the brushing member 22 shown in Figs. 1 to 5 of the drawings comprises a U-shaped brush having a wire body member 74, both ends of which are imbedded in the connecting member 40, and bristles 76 mounted in and projecting from the wire body member 74.

As was previously stated, the valve member 42 is made of a resilient material and it will be noted that, as best seen in Figs. 2 and 4, the pushbutton 48 is connected to the collar member 46 by an intermediate member 47, which, being formed of the resilient material affords a flexible, resilient connection between the pushbutton 48 and the collar 46 whereby the pushbutton 48 may be moved into various positions relative to the collar member 46 by bending the intermediate member 47.

The openings 68 and 70 in the valve member 42 are so positioned therein that when the pushbutton 48 is in its normal position, as shown in Fig. 2, water flowing into the chamber 56 from the faucet 28, through the flexible tube 26 and the tubular member 36, is sprayed from the pushbutton 48 into the bristles 76 of the brushing member 22. It will be noted that when the pushbutton 48 is disposed in this position, the passageways 65 and 66 are open, as best seen in Fig. 2, so that soap may flow therethrough from the casing 30 into the passageway 56 and be mixed with the water being discharged from the passageway 56 to thereby form a washing solution as will be discussed in greater detail hereinafter.

When it is desired to do so, the operator of our novel washing apparatus may press downwardly on the pushbutton 48, as viewed in Fig. 2, to thereby deflect the pushbutton 48 downwardly from the position shown in Fig. 2 to that shown in Fig. 4. It will be noted that when the pushbutton 48 occupies the position shown in Fig. 4, the upper and lower walls 62 and 63 of the chamber 56 are positioned in sealing engagement with the upper and lower portions of the side walls of the tubular member 36 to thereby close the passageways 65 and 66 against the passage of soap therethrough into the chamber 56 so that the liquid being discharged from the passageways 68 and 70 is clear rinsing water which enters the passageway 56 from the tubular member 36. Also, it will be noted that when the pushbutton 48 is positioned as shown in Fig. 4, the passageways 68 and 70 are directed downwardly so that liquid discharged from the tubular member 36

therethrough is discharged below the brushing member 22 without entering the bristles 76 thereof. Thus it will be seen that with the pushbutton 48 in the position shown in Fig. 2, a washing solution, consisting of soap and water, may be discharged from the passageways 68 and 70 into the bristles 76 during a washing operation with our novel apparatus, and when the pushbutton 48 is pressed downwardly into the position shown in Fig. 4 the passageways 68 and 70 are deflected downwardly so that clear water may be discharged directly therefrom onto a dish or the like during a rinsing operation, as will be discussed in greater detail hereinafter.

Operation

In the operation of our washing apparatus, the end member 38 may be unscrewed from the casing 30 and the casing 30 may then be filled with suitable material such as soap or a detergent. The end member 38 may then be remounted on the casing 30, the connecting member 40 being screwed into such position that the chamber 56 in the valve member 42 is mounted in proper relation to the front end portion of the tubular member 36. The material that we prefer to use in filling the casing 30 of our novel washing apparatus in the aforementioned manner is powdered or granulated soap. However, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art, that other materials such as, for example, a detergent in powdered or granulated form, or other forms of soap such as, for example, soap flakes, may be used without departing from the purview of our invention.

After our novel washing apparatus had been prepared for operation in this manner, it is ready for use in washing and rinsing dishes, bath tubs, sinks or any number of other articles.

In the use of our novel washing apparatus, the tube 26 may be connected by the coupling member 29 to a suitable source of water supply such as the faucet 28, Fig. 1, and the faucet 28 may be opened to permit water to flow therefrom into the tube 26. The water which enters the tube 26 from the faucet 28 flows through the tubular member 36, the chamber 56 and is discharged from the valve member 42 through the passageways 68 and 70.

With the pushbutton 48 in the normal position shown in Fig. 2 a portion of the water which enters the chamber 56 from the tubular member 36 flows into the casing 30, through the passageways 65 and 66, wherein it forms a solution with part of the soap therein, which solution, because of diffusion and because of the pressure created in the casing 30 tends to enter the passageways 65 and 66.

It will be noted that with the pushbutton 48 in the normal position shown in Fig. 2, the water which flows from the tubular member 36 through the chamber 56 and the passageways 68 and 70 is discharged from the passageways 68 and 70 into the bristles 76 of the brushing element 22. However, in flowing from the tubular member 36 through the chamber 56, the water passes in fluid contact with the water in the passageways 65 and 66, which has part of the soap in the casing 30 in solution therewith and a part of this solution in the passageways 65 and 66 is picked-up by the water flowing through chamber 56 and mixes therewith so that a soap solution passes through the passageways 68 and 70 in the pushbutton 48 into the bristles 76 of the brushing member 22 and thereby affords a wash-

ing solution for application by the brushing element 22 to the surface or article to be washed.

When it is desired to stop the flow of washing solution to the brushing element 22 and to rinse the article being washed, it is merely necessary for the operator to manually depress the pushbutton 48 and thereby deflect the pushbutton 48, comprising the front end portion of the valve member 42 downwardly into the position shown in Fig. 4. This downward movement of the pushbutton 48 causes the top wall 62 and the bottom wall 63 of the chamber 56 to be moved into engagement with the upper and lower portions, respectively, of the side wall of the tubular member 36 to thereby close the communication between the casing 30 and the chamber 56 through the passageways 65 and 66. The side walls 60 and 61 of the chamber 56 remain in engagement with the side portions of the wall of the tubular member 36 and, therefore, this movement of the pushbutton 48, stops the flow of soapy solution through the passageways 68 and 70 and initiates the flow of clear rinsing water from the tubular member 36 through the passageways 68 and 70. As previously discussed, the downward deflection of the pushbutton 48 correspondingly deflects the passageways 68 and 70 downwardly to such position that the rinsing water discharged therefrom may be discharged directly onto the surface of the article being washed without passing into the bristles 76 of the brushing member 22.

After the rinsing operation has been completed, the operator may again release the pushbutton 48, whereupon the resilient connection between the pushbutton 48 and the collar member 46 will move the pushbutton 48 upwardly into the normal position shown in Fig. 2 to again open the passageways 65 and 66 and re-establish the flow of soapy water through the passageways 68 and 70 into the bristles 76 of the brushing element 22.

Thus, it will be seen that our novel washing apparatus comprises a device with which an operator may quickly and easily wash and rinse dishes and other articles.

Modified form shown in Figs. 6-9, inclusive

In Figs. 6 to 9, inclusive, is shown a modified form of our invention which is, in general, the same as that shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive. The difference between these two forms of our invention being primarily in specific details of construction and operation of the valve members embodied therein and parts shown in Figs. 6 to 9, inclusive, which are like parts shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, are indicated by the same reference numerals with the suffix "a" added thereto.

Thus it will be seen that, like the washing apparatus shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, the apparatus shown in Figs. 6 to 9, inclusive, embodies a brushing element 22a connected to one end portion of the body member 24a, the other end of which is connected by a tube 26a to a suitable source of water.

Like the washing apparatus shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive the flexible tube 26a, is connected to a tubular member 36a mounted in and supported by a plug member 34a mounted in one end portion of a casing member 30a, the other end portion of the casing member 30a having threads 37a formed thereon onto which is screwed an end member 38a. The end member 38a comprises a connecting member 40a and a valve member 42a, the valve member 42a comprising a flex-

ible diaphragm 80 mounted in the connecting member 40a in engagement with the edge of the aforesaid other end portion of the casing 38a. The diaphragm 80 has a central opening 82 which is complementary in shape to the end portion of the tubular member 36a, the diameter of the opening 82 being substantially the same as the inside diameter of the tubular member 36a for a purpose which will be discussed in greater detail presently.

A lever 85, having a finger member 87 and an actuating member 89 is pivotally mounted on a pin or shaft 91 mounted in two bosses 93 and 94 which project outwardly from the front end portion of the connecting member 40a. The actuating member 89 of the lever 85 has an opening 96 formed therein which is of somewhat greater diameter than the opening 82 formed in the diaphragm 80 and the lever 85 is mounted on the pin 91 in such a manner that the opening 86 is in alignment with the opening 82 and the front end portion of the tubular member 36a in all operating positions of the lever 85, the front edge portion of the connecting member 40a, and the central portion of the diaphragm 80 affording abutment members engageable with the finger member 87 and the actuating member 89, respectively, to restrict the movement of the lever 85 within the limits necessary to maintain the opening 86 in alignment with the opening 82 and the tubular member 36a, as best seen in Figs. 7 and 8.

When no water is passing through the washing apparatus disclosed in Figs. 6 to 9, inclusive, the diaphragm 80 is substantially flat in form and occupies a position slightly ahead of the front end portion of the tubular member 36a in the casing 30a, intermediate the positions shown in Figs. 7 and 8. However, during an operation of our novel device water is fed from a faucet, or the like, through the flexible tube 26a and the tubular member 36a into the casing 30a and is discharged outwardly from the casing 30a through the openings 82 and 96 in the diaphragm 80 and the lever 85, respectively. The opening 82 in the diaphragm 80 and the discharge opening in the tubular member 36a are of such corresponding diameters that the stream of water discharged from the tubular member 36a is not free to flow unobstructedly through the opening 82, but the peripheral edge portion of the stream of water strikes that portion of the diaphragm defining the opening 82 and thereby deflects or distends the diaphragm 82 outwardly as best seen in Fig. 8. This, it will be seen affords a passageway 65a between the diaphragm 80 and the tubular member 36a which is similar to and serves the same purpose as the passageways 65 and 66 in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, namely, to afford a passageway between the valve member 42a and the tubular member 36a which interconnects the interior of the casing 30a with the area through which the water discharged from the tubular member 36a passes in flowing into the discharge opening 82 in the valve member 42a. That portion of the water which strikes the diaphragm around the opening 82 is deflected thereby into contact with the soap contained in the front end portion of the casing 30 to thereby form a soap solution which is positioned around the front end portion of the tubular member 36a. Thus it will be seen that, with the diaphragm 80 positioned as shown in Fig. 8, water which is discharged from the tubular member 36a into the opening 82 passes in liquid contact with the soap

solution surrounding the front end portion of the tubular member 36a whereby a portion of the solution is drawn through the passageway 65a and mixes with the stream of water being discharged from the tubular member 36a outwardly through the openings 82 and 96 to thereby form a washing solution which is sprayed from the openings 82 and 96 onto the bristles 76a of the brushing member 22a. The brushing member 22a, when washing solution is being fed thereonto in this manner, may be effectively applied to dishes, and the like, for scrubbing and washing the latter.

When it is desired to apply rinsing water to the article being washed, it is merely necessary for the operator to press forwardly on the member 87 of the lever 85 to thereby swing the lever 85 on the pin 91 in a counterclockwise direction, as viewed in Figs. 7 and 8, and cause the actuating member 89 to engage the outer face of the diaphragm 80 and press the diaphragm 80 rearwardly or to the right, as viewed in Fig. 7, into engagement with the front end portion of the tubular member 36a, to thereby close the passageway 65a. Closure of the passageway 65a, as best seen in Fig. 7, is effective to prevent the flow of soap from the casing 30a into the stream of water being discharged from the tubular member 36a through the opening 82 in the diaphragm 80, so that the water flowing from the opening 82 is clear and suitable for rinsing purposes.

Thus it will be seen that the principle of controlling the flow of soap from the casing 30a into the stream of water discharged from the tubular member 36a in the form of our invention shown in Figs. 6 to 9, inclusive, is the same as that of the form of our invention shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, namely, by varying the spaced relationship of the valve member 42a to the tubular member 36a, and affords a novel and expeditious manner of selectively controlling the flow of washing solution and rinsing water through our novel device.

Modified form shown in Figs. 10 to 13, inclusive

Another modified form of our invention is shown in Figs. 10 to 13, inclusive, and parts which are like parts shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, are indicated by the same reference numerals with the suffix "b" added thereto.

It will be noted that like the washing apparatus shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, the apparatus shown in Figs. 10 to 13, inclusive, embodies a brushing element 22b connected to one end portion of a body member 22b, the other end of which is connected by a flexible tube 26b to a suitable source of water such as, for example, a faucet 28b, a coupling member 29b being provided for this purpose.

Also, like the washing apparatus shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, the washing apparatus shown in Figs. 10 to 13, inclusive, embodies an end member 38b comprising a connecting member 40b and a valve member 42b mounted on one end of a casing 30b in operative association with a tubular member 36b mounted in and supported by a plug member 34b. However, the valve member 42b, unlike the valve shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive, does not embody a push-button 48 but merely embodies a projecting button 90 connected to a collar member 46b. Like the valve member 42, the valve member 42b includes a chamber 56b into which water from the tubular member 36b may flow. A discharge

opening, comprising a laterally extending slot 92 formed in the projecting button 90 affords means by which a soap solution may be discharged from the chamber 56b into the bristles 76b of the brushing member 22b in the same manner as that heretofore discussed with respect to the form of our invention shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive.

The coupling member 29b, by which the tubular member 26b may be connected to the faucet 28b, or the like, is primarily the same as the coupling member 29, shown in Fig. 1, but, unlike the coupling member 29, has a plurality of openings 95, Figs. 10 and 13, formed therein through which clear rinsing water may be discharged from the faucet 28b during the operation of the form of our device shown in Figs. 10 to 13, inclusive.

Thus, it will be seen that in the operation of the novel washing apparatus shown in Figs. 10 to 13, the casing 30b may be filled with soap, the coupling member may be operatively connected to the faucet 28b, and the faucet 28b may then be turned on, all in the same manner as previously discussed with respect to the form of our invention shown in Figs. 1 to 5, inclusive. After the faucet 28b is turned on, and during the operation of our apparatus shown in Figs. 10 to 13, inclusive, the flow of washing solution from the slot 92 in the valve member 42b onto the brushing element 22b, and the flow of rinsing water through the discharge openings 95 in the coupling member 29b, is continuous. Thus it will be seen that during an operation of the apparatus shown in Figs. 10 to 13, the brushing element 22b may be effectively used to wash and scrub articles such as dishes and the like, and after being washed, the articles may be rinsed in the spray of water being discharged from the openings 95 formed in the coupling member 29b.

From the foregoing it will be seen that we have provided a novel washing apparatus with which articles such as dishes, and the like, may be readily washed and rinsed.

Also, it will be seen that we have provided a novel washing apparatus which may be readily and economically manufactured commercially; which embodies a novel valve mechanism; which is pleasing in appearance and efficient in operation; and which operates in a novel and expeditious manner.

Hence, while we have illustrated and described preferred embodiments of our invention, it is to be understood that these are capable of variation and modification and we therefore do not wish to be limited to the precise details set forth, but desire to avail ourselves of such changes and alterations as fall within the purview of the following claims.

We claim:

1. Washing apparatus comprising a body member having a soap receptacle therein adapted to hold a quantity of soap, means for feeding water into said body member including a tubular member extending through said body member, and a valve member mounted in said body member adjacent to one end of said tubular member and having a passageway for discharging water from said tubular member outwardly from said body member, said valve member having a portion mounted in position in said body member relative to said tubular member whereby said portion of said valve member and said tubular member define a passageway therebetween

interconnecting said soap receptacle and said first mentioned passageway during a washing operation for the passage of soap from said receptacle into said first mentioned passageway, said portion of said valve member being movable into engagement with said tubular member to thereby close said second mentioned passageway.

2. Washing apparatus comprising a casing member having a receptacle therein adapted to hold a quantity of soap, means including a tubular member for feeding liquid into said casing member and a valve member mounted in said casing member and having a passageway therein for discharging liquid from said tubular member outwardly from said casing member, said tubular member and a portion of said valve member being normally positioned in said casing member in spaced relation to each other to thereby afford a passageway in said portion and extending longitudinally along said tubular member between said first mentioned passageway and said receptacle for the passage of soap from said receptacle into said first mentioned passageway.

3. Washing apparatus comprising a casing member having a receptacle defined therein adapted to hold a quantity of soap, means including a tubular member mounted in said casing member for feeding liquid into said casing member, and a valve member having a portion mounted on said casing member for supporting said valve member thereon, said valve member having a passageway therein for discharging liquid from said tubular member outwardly from said casing member, said tubular member and another portion of said valve member being positioned in said casing member so as to be normally in spaced relation to each other to thereby afford another passageway between said first mentioned passageway and said receptacle, said other portion of said valve member being manually movable independently of said first named portion into engagement with said tubular member to thereby close said other passageway.

4. Washing apparatus comprising a casing member affording a receptacle therein adapted to hold a quantity of soap, a valve member mounted in said casing member, said valve member having a chamber and a passageway formed therein, said passageway affording communication between said chamber and the atmosphere, and means including an elongated tubular member mounted in said casing member for feeding liquid into said casing member, said tubular member having one end thereof extending into said chamber with a portion of the side walls of said one end of said tubular member in sealing engagement with the adjacent portion of the side walls of said chamber and the other portion of the side walls of the one end of said tubular member being normally positioned in spaced relation to the adjacent portion of said side walls of said chamber to afford a passageway therebetween which is normally in open communication between said chamber and the interior of said casing member.

5. Washing apparatus comprising a body member having a receptacle defined therein adapted to hold a quantity of soap, a valve member mounted in said body member, said valve member having a chamber and a passageway formed therein, said passageway affording communication between said chamber and the atmosphere, and means including a tubular member mounted

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in said body member for feeding liquid into said body member, said tubular member having an end extending into said chamber with a portion of said end of said tubular member in sealing engagement with the adjacent portion of the side walls of said chamber and the other portion of said end of said tubular member being normally positioned in spaced relation to the adjacent portion of said side walls of said chamber to afford a passageway therebetween which is normally in open communication between said chamber and the interior of said body member, said valve member being manually movable relative to said tubular member to a position wherein all of said portion of the side walls of said chamber are in sealing engagement with the side wall of said one end portion of said tubular member to thereby close said last mentioned passageway.

6. Washing apparatus comprising an elongated body member having a receptacle therein adapted to hold a quantity of soap, a valve member mounted in said body member and having an open-sided chamber formed therein, said chamber opening toward said receptacle and having a top wall, a bottom wall and two side walls, said valve member also having a passageway formed therein and affording communication between said chamber and the atmosphere, and a tubular member mounted in said body member for feeding liquid into said chamber, one end portion of said tubular member extending into said chamber, said one end portion being positioned in sealing engagement with said side walls of said chamber, and said one end portion being normally positioned in spaced relation to said top and bottom walls of said chamber to thereby afford passageways therebetween, said last mentioned passageways opening into both said chamber and said receptacle and being normally open throughout their length to afford a channel through which soap positioned in said receptacle may pass into said chamber, said valve member being manually movable relative to said tubular member to thereby position said top and bottom walls of said chamber in sealing engagement with said one end portion of said tubular member to thereby close said last mentioned passageways and prevent the passage of soap therethrough from said receptacle into said chamber.

7. Washing apparatus comprising an elongated body member having a receptacle therein for holding a quantity of soap, a valve member mounted on one end of said body member, said valve member comprising a manually operable member and a collar member, means including said collar member for holding said valve member on said body member, said valve member having a chamber formed therein comprising an opening extending through said collar member into said manually operable member, and a tubular member extending into said body member for feeding liquid into said chamber, said tubular member having an end portion extending into said opening, said end portion being in sealing engagement with a portion of that part of said valve member defining said opening, said end portion of said tubular member being normally positioned in spaced relation to another portion of that part of said valve member defining said opening to thereby afford a passageway between said other portion of said valve member and said end portion of said tubular member, said passageway opening into said receptacle and said chamber and being normally open throughout its length to permit the passage

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of soap from said receptacle into said chamber, said manually operable member having a passageway formed therein which has one end in communication with said chamber and the other end in communication with the atmosphere, said last mentioned passageway affording means through which soap and water which enters said chamber may be discharged to the atmosphere, said manually operable member being movable to thereby move said other portion of said valve member into sealing engagement with said end portion of said tubular member to thereby close said first mentioned passageway and thereby prevent the passage of soap from said receptacle to said chamber.

8. Washing apparatus comprising an elongated casing adapted to hold a quantity of soap therein, a valve member mounted on one end portion of said casing and comprising a flexible diaphragm forming an end wall of said casing, an elongated tubular member mounted in said casing and having a discharge opening in one end thereof for feeding liquid into said casing, said discharge opening being directed toward said diaphragm, said diaphragm having an opening formed therein for discharging liquid from said casing, said diaphragm being movable into and out of operative engagement with said one end of said tubular member and being operable upon movement into said operative engagement to seal that portion of said end of said casing positioned radially outwardly of said opening in said one end of said tubular member, and manually operable means for moving said diaphragm into said operative engagement with said one end of said tubular member.

9. Washing apparatus comprising an elongated casing adapted to hold a quantity of soap therein, a valve member mounted on one end portion of said casing and comprising a flexible diaphragm forming an end wall of said casing, an elongated tubular member mounted in said casing and having a discharge opening in one end thereof for feeding liquid into said casing, said discharge opening being directed toward said diaphragm, said diaphragm having an opening formed therein for discharging liquid from said casing, said diaphragm being normally spaced outwardly from said one end of said tubular member and being movable into sealing engagement therewith around said opening in said one end of said tubular member, and a lever member pivotally mounted on said casing and engageable with said diaphragm, said lever member being operable upon the application of a predetermined pressure in one direction thereon to move said diaphragm into said sealing engagement with said tubular member.

10. Washing apparatus comprising an elongated casing adapted to hold a quantity of soap in a portion thereof, a flexible diaphragm mounted on one end of said casing and comprising one end wall of said casing, said diaphragm having an opening formed therethrough, an elongated tubular member mounted in said casing for feeding liquid thereinto, said tubular member having a liquid-discharge opening therein directed toward said opening in said diaphragm and being adapted to feed a stream of liquid into said casing and outwardly through said opening in said diaphragm, said diaphragm being adapted to be distended away from said tubular member when such a stream of water is directed outwardly therethrough to thereby afford a passageway between that portion of

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said casing adapted to hold the quantity of soap and the stream of water flowing from said tubular member to said opening in said diaphragm, said diaphragm being movable into operative engagement with said tubular member in which engagement that portion of said diaphragm which defines said opening is sealingly engaged with said tubular member in a complete circle around said opening in said tubular member to thereby close said passageway, and a manually operable member mounted on said casing and engageable with said diaphragm for moving said diaphragm into said operative engagement with said tubular member.

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