Nov. 30, 1926. 1,608,928

E. L. DENNIS

SOAP TRAY

Filed Feb 12, 1925

Fig. 1.

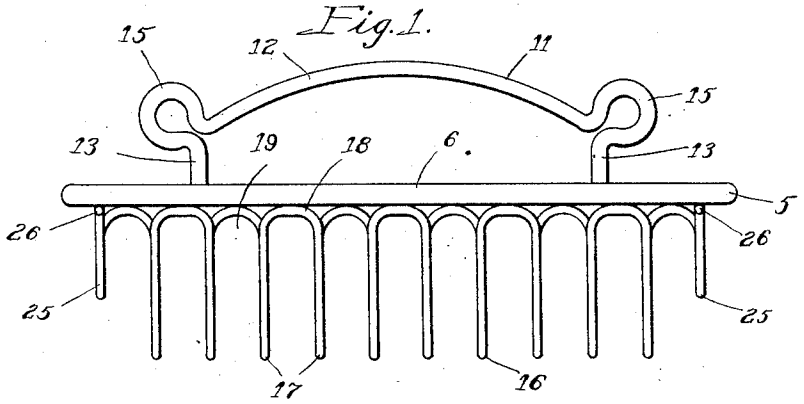


Fig. 2.

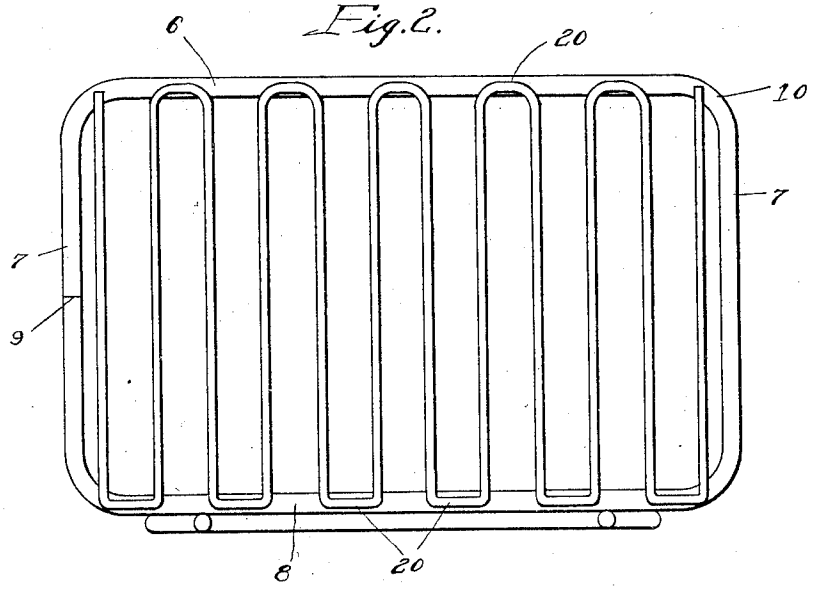
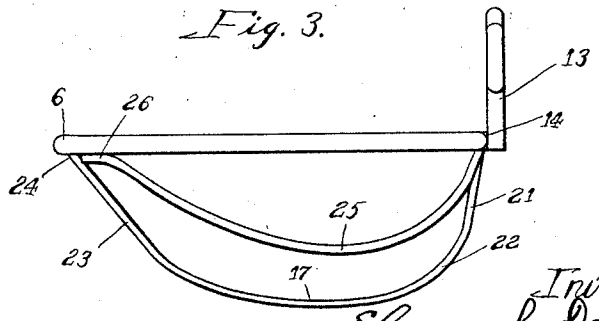


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SOAP TRAY.

Application filed February 12, 1925. Serial No. 3,650.

This invention relates to a novel soap tray and among the objects thereof are to provide a tray which can be economically manufactured and one so constructed that the soap can be slid easily out of the tray and will not be scraped off on the front of the tray when it is being removed therefrom. Another object is to provide a soap tray of simple and novel construction characterized by a frame and a bottom, the latter being formed of a single piece of wire bent or reflexed to provide both the bottom and ends of the tray.

Other objects and attendant advantages will be appreciated by those skilled in this art as the invention becomes better understood by reference to the following description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a soap tray embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view; and

Fig. 3 is an end elevation thereof.

Referring to the drawing in detail, in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, the soap tray includes a frame 5 preferably of a piece of comparatively heavy or stout wire bent in substantially rectangular outline to form a front portion 6, ends or sides 7 and a back portion 8. The ends of the wire forming the frame may be welded or otherwise connected as indicated at 9 and the corners of the frame are preferably rounded as indicated at 10.

The back of the frame is provided with an upright supporting member or bracket 11, also preferably formed of wire and having an upwardly curved connecting portion 12 at the top provided with downward extending ends 13, the extremities of which are spot-welded or soldered to the back portion 8 of the frame 5 as indicated at 14. The supporting member 11 is formed with open loops or eyes 15 at the juncture of the portion 12 with the depending end portions 13, said loops or eyes extending upwardly and outwardly to engage nails, screws or other supports mounted at the back of a sink or other upright or on a cabinet where it is desired to suspend the tray.

The bottom ends of the tray are formed of a single strand or length of wire, the bottom 16 being formed by bending the wire back and forth in U-shaped or zigzag formation to extend transversely of the frame. This provides a series of parallel transverse portions 17 and alternately closed ends 18 and open ends 19, the bent portions 18 being soldered, welded or otherwise fastened to the front and rear portions 6 and 8 of the frame 5 as indicated at 20. The ends of the strand or section of wire forming the bottom 16 are extended between the front and back portions of the frame at an elevation or bent about midway between the depressed bottom portions of the transverse portions 17 and the ends 7 or horizontal plane of the frame of the tray. It will be noted that the transverse portions 17 extend substantially straight downward but are slightly inclined forwardly at the back of the frame and tray bottom as indicated at 21, and are bent or curved forwardly in a quite abrupt rounding curve as indicated at 22, while the forward portions extend forwardly and upwardly in a gradual curve or inclination as indicated at 23 and are joined to the front portion 6 of the frame as indicated at 24 substantially at a tangent to the periphery of the front portion at the inside or back thereof so as not to scrape the soap off when removing the soap from the tray.

It will also be noted that the ends 25 are curved substantially the same as the transverse bottom portions 17 and the extremities or terminals are anchored by soldering or welding to the front corners of the frame as indicated at 26. Owing to the fact that the end portions 25 are positioned in a plane substantially midway between the bottom portions 17 and the ends of the frame, these end portions form barriers to close the ends of the tray and prevent displacement of the soap therefrom.

An advantage of the present construction over previous devices is that the bottom and ends forming the tray proper are formed from a single length or strand of wire thus eliminating the operation of cutting the wire into short sections and facilitating manufacturing in quantities by eliminating unnecessary and multitudinous operations in handling a series of short pieces of wire and fastening same to the frame of the tray. The number of fastenings is also reduced to about one-half. It being only necessary to bend the wire forming the bottom of the

tray in the desired shape, and then anchor the same as a single element to the frame, so that when the ends of the wire forming the bottom are welded to the frame, they also form the ends of the tray bottom to prevent the soap from falling out at the ends of the tray. This construction using a one-piece bottom avoids the likelihood of disconnection of the parts, that is, if any one of the welds breaks, the segment relying on the weld is supported by the adjacent segments and by the entire body of the tray bottom which is mounted on the frame. The bottom wire is so welded to the under side of the front part or side 6 of the frame of the tray as to provide an inclined front without obstruction between the bottom wire and the front wire, so that the surface is unbroken or practically continuous, thus eliminating the scraping of the soap when removing it from the tray. I also wish to have it understood that while I have specified wire and shown the same of round cross section, any other suitable material of desired cross section may be employed in lieu thereof and that various other changes in the form, proportion and relation of the parts, as well as the manner of connecting the same and providing a support for the tray or frame thereof, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:

A soap tray of the character described, comprising a generally rectangular heavy wire main frame, and a one-piece relatively light wire soap-supporting tray bottom arranged to be welded to said main frame, said wire being formed by zigzag bending into a generally rectangular wire body of approximately the length of said frame which is struck into a trough shape whereby the bends of the wire at the front and back of the tray are spaced to align with the front and back spans of the wire main frame, said wire bottom being welded at the bends to said wire main frame leaving no portion of the wire main frame projecting beyond the plane of the surface of the tray bottom in the front of the tray, and the end spans of said wire bottom being struck at the same time with the rest of the bottom to extend across the open ends of the bottom from front to back thereof to form end barriers for the soap supported in the tray, said end spans being likewise welded to said frame at the front and back ends thereof.

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