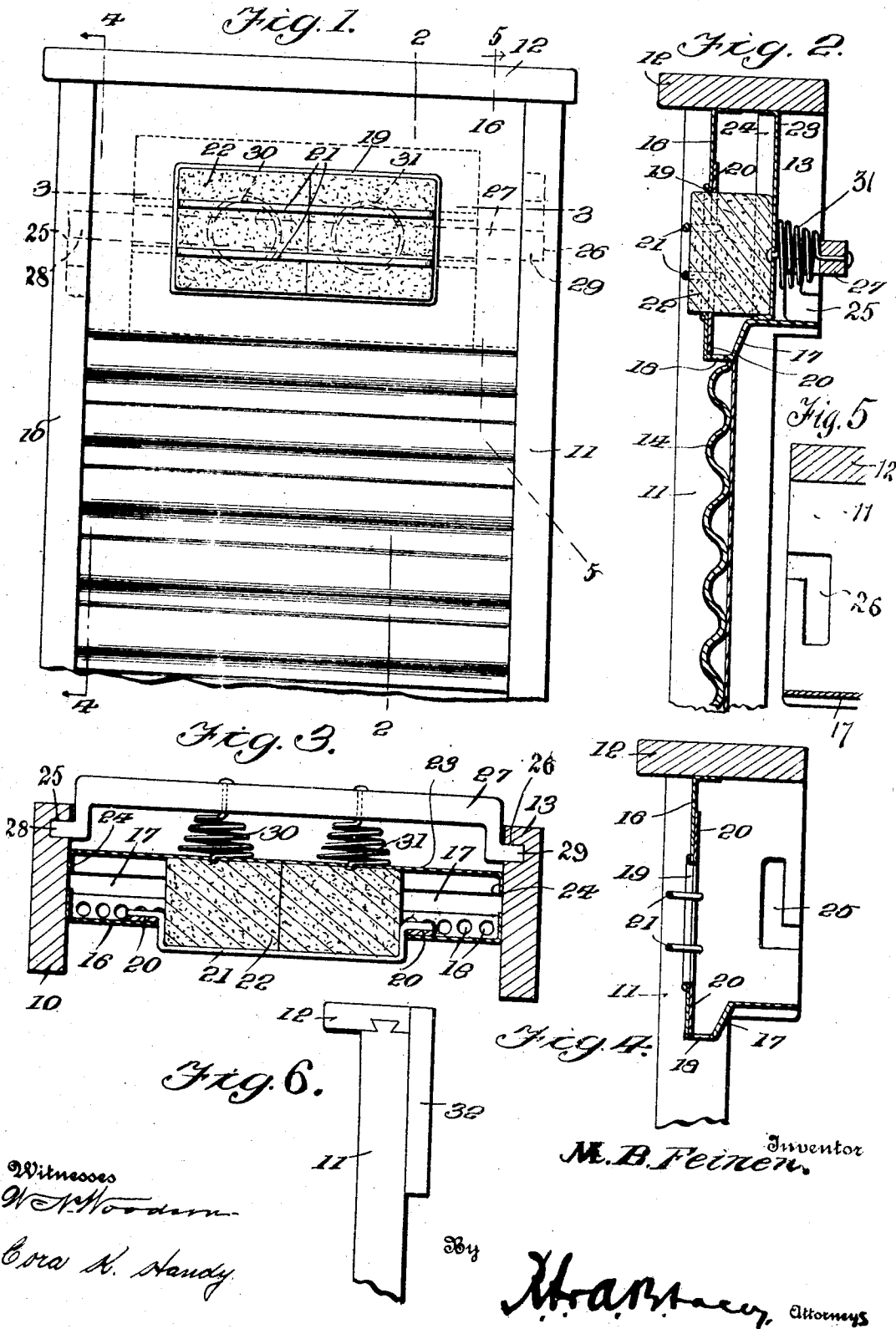


M. B. FEINEN.
WASHBOARD.
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1,062,447.

Patented May 20, 1913.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARY B. FEINEN, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

WASHBOARD.

1,062,447.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARY B. FEINEN, citizen of the United States, residing at Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey; have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washboards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in washboards of the class having a soap-holding attachment, and has for one of its objects to simplify and improve the construction and increase the efficiency and utility of devices of this character.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simply constructed device which may be applied without material structural changes to washboards of the ordinary construction.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character wherein provision is made for separating the parts for cleansing and repairs, and to enable the soap to be replenished.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simply constructed device whereby the drainage from the support is prevented from passing rearwardly of the board, but is caused to flow over the rubbing surface.

With these and other objects in view, as will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in certain constructions, arrangements and combinations of the parts that I shall hereinafter fully describe and claim.

For a full understanding of the invention reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the washboard with the improvement applied; Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is a sectional detail on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrow; and Fig. 5 is a detail in section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 6 is a detail illustrating the manner of applying the improved device to any ordinary washboard.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the accompanying drawings by the same reference characters.

The improved device comprises spaced side members 10—11 and an upper or head mem-

ber 12, substantially of the usual construction, except that the upper portion of the side members extend rearwardly as indicated at 13. The rubbing surface is of the usual construction and represented conventionally at 14 and extending transversely between the side members 10—11. Between the upper end of the rubbing member 14 and the head member 12 is a head plate 16, preferably of metal and extending slightly in advance of the rubbing surface of the member 14. At its lower edge the member 16 is directed inwardly and thence upwardly and rearwardly, as shown at 17, to form a trough which is provided with a plurality of apertures 18 to provide drainage for the dissolved soap, and likewise to form a shelf for supporting a follower as hereinafter explained.

The plate 16 is provided with a relatively large opening, preferably slightly larger than two ordinary cakes of soap and indicated at 19. Bearing against the inner face of the plate 16 and surrounding the opening 19 is a frame 20 to which a plurality of wire holding members 21 are connected at their ends, the intermediate portions of the wire holding members being bent outwardly through the opening 19 and extending forwardly of the outer face of the plate 16. At its lower edge the plate 20 rests in the bottom of the trough 17 and is supported thereby. The wire members thus form supports or guards for the cakes of soap, represented conventionally at 22, the soap being thus supported with the outer face slightly in advance of the outer face of the plate 16. Slidably disposed between the members 10—11 and the head member 12 is a follower plate 23 which bears against the rear face of the soap and is provided with an encompassing flange 24, the lower portion of the flange extending beneath the cakes of soap and supporting the same, while the remaining flange portion bears against the side members 10—11 and the head member 12. By this means the follower is supported for movement within the frame of the washboard. Formed in the inner face of the member 10 is a blind slot, indicated at 25, while a similar slot is formed in the inner face of the member 11 and indicated at 26. The slots 25—26 are L-shaped, as represented in Fig. 4, and open rearwardly through the rear faces of the members 10—11, the

slot 25 having its opening below the body of the slot, while the slot 26 opens above the body of the slot.

Extending transversely of the washboard is a bar 27 with one end inserted into the slot 25, as shown at 28, while the other end is inserted in the slot 26, as shown at 29. By this means it will be observed that when disposed at a slight oblique angle, the bar may be inserted by its ends 28—29 in the rearwardly opening ends of the slots 25—26, and then when disposed in a horizontal position the bar will be retained in position in the slots. By this means the bar may be readily coupled with or uncoupled from the frame of the washboard. Springs 30—31 are connected at their ends respectively to the follower 23 and the bar 27, and being yieldable will permit the oblique disposition of the bar when coupling the same with or uncoupling it from the washboard frame without disarranging the parts while at the same time holding the bar with sufficient firmness to prevent accidental displacement when not in use. By this simple means the springs operate continuously against the follower 23 and maintain the same yieldably in engagement with the cake of soap and hold the latter against the guards 21, and cause the follower to keep the soap in position as it is worn away. When the cakes of soap have been used up fresh cakes can be readily inserted by detaching the bar 27 and the follower 23, as before described. The inclined member 17 forms a trough-like terminal to the plate 16 to provide for the passage of any soap dissolved, through the apertures 18 and over the rubbing surface 14 so that all of the soap is utilized during the operation.

In Fig. 6 is shown the side view of the upper portion of an ordinary washboard, illustrating the changes necessary to apply the improved device thereto. The only change required is to attach to the rear edges of the members 10—11—12 extension strips 32 and form the recesses 25—26 in these extended strips and replace the ordinary head member of the board with the apertured plate 16 including the apertures 18 and the inclined member 17.

The improved device is simple in construction, can be inexpensively manufactured, and enables the soap to be used with

increased economy, as no waste occurs in its use.

In operating the device the garments are drawn upwardly over the portion of the soap which extends through the opening 19 and thus apply the soap thereto while at the same time any particles of soap which may be dissolved in the operation find their way over the rubbing surface through the apertures 18. The springs 30—31 are preferably formed in volute shape, as shown, so that when compressed the coils fold one within the other to increase the range of movement.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new is:—

1. A washboard including spaced side members and a head member, a head plate extending between said side members and beneath said head member and provided with an opening, a drainage trough having perforations and extending rearwardly of the head plate at its lower edge, a rubbing member extending between said side members and beneath said trough in position to receive the drainage therefrom, a frame having an opening corresponding to the opening of the head member and bearing against the rear face of said head plate with its opening registering with the opening of the same, said frame bearing at its lower edge upon the bottom of the said drainage trough and supported thereby, supporting wires carried by said frame and extending through said head plate opening and adapted to support cakes of soap, and means adapted to hold soap against said wires.

2. A washboard including a head plate having an opening and a rubbing member below the head plate, a bottom plate having a rear imperforate portion and with a perforated drainage trough at its forward side, said trough extending in advance of the rubbing member, and means for supporting soap upon said imperforate bottom portion and above said trough and in the head plate opening.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MARY B. FEINEN. [L.S.]

Witnesses:

LEO FEINEN,

FREDK. T. P. SIMPSON.