Jan. 16, 1940. L. J. SUDDARTH 2,187,670

APPLICATOR

Filed Oct. 23, 1937

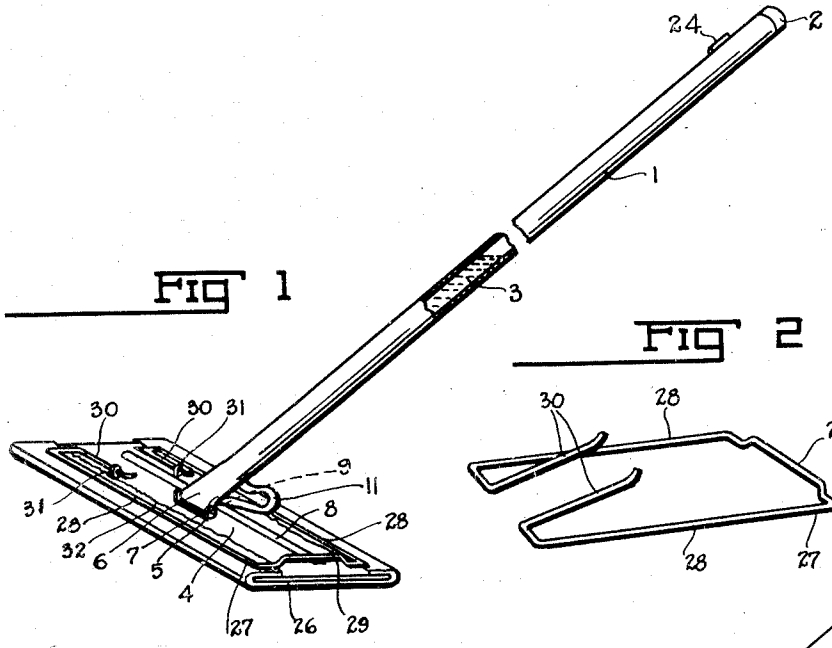


FIG 1

FIG 2

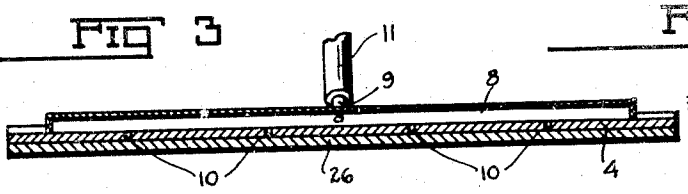


FIG 3

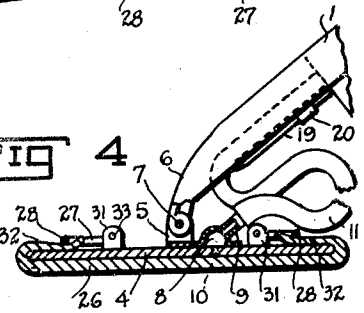


FIG 4

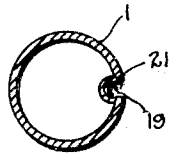


FIG 6

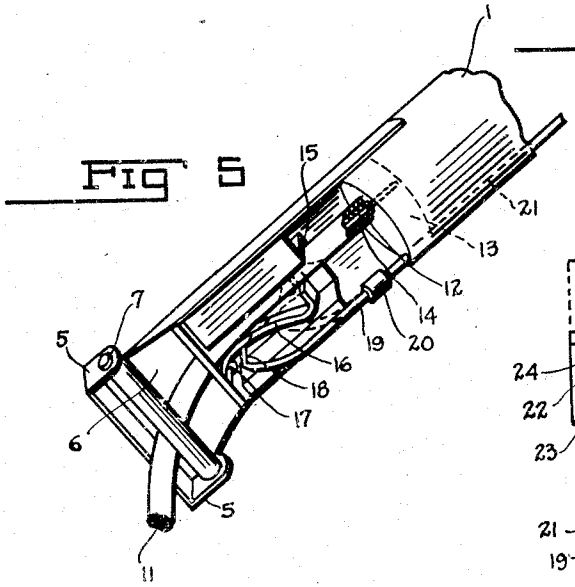


FIG 5

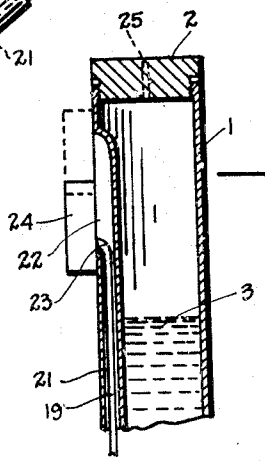


FIG 7

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APPLICATOR

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Application October 23, 1937, Serial No. 170,529

2 Claims. (Cl. 91—39)

This invention relates in general to wax applicators and in particular to that type of device having a self contained reservoir for wax or other liquid, an applicator head, conduit means between the reservoir and the head and means for controlling the flow of liquid from the reservoir to the head.

My invention contemplates the use of liquid wax therewith, the proper application of wax in a liquid state requiring merely that the wax be flowed onto the floor in an even coat with practically no rubbing or polishing.

The objects of the invention, therefore, are: first; to provide a wax applicator in which the wax supply will be self contained and will flow by gravity to the waxing head.

Second; to provide a wax flow control means remotely controlled from a point adjacent the operator's hand, whereby the flow of wax may be instantly stopped or started.

Third; to provide a head construction which will promote the uniform distribution of wax throughout the applicator head and pad.

Fourth; to provide a pad holding construction which will facilitate the changing of applicator pads, and which will firmly and securely hold the pads in position during the wax applying process.

Fifth; to provide a wax applicator which may be used by the operator while in an erect position, making it unnecessary to stoop or get down on the hands and knees in order to apply the wax.

Sixth; to provide a wax applicator which will be easy to clean, preparatory for future use.

Other objects as well as the advantages and construction of my invention will be apparent by reference to the following description in connection with the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the wax applicator comprising my invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the pad retaining spring.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view through the applicator head showing the distributing channel.

Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view through the applicator head.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of the lower end of the handle showing the valving mechanism.

Fig. 6 is a cross sectional view through the handle showing the valve control rod.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary, vertical sectional view through the upper part of the handle showing the valve control rod finger knob.

Referring now to the drawing by numerals of reference 1 designates a hollow handle having a suitable cap 2 and providing a reservoir for liquid wax 3 or the like.

The head 4 may be flat and rectangular in shape and may have upstanding lugs 5 preferably located centrally thereof, the lower end 6 of the handle 1 being pivotally mounted to said lugs at 7.

Positioned longitudinally of the head 4 is a distributing groove or channel 8 having an inlet 9. Passages or openings 10 lead from the channel 8 through the head to the lower surface thereof and are evenly distributed throughout the length of said channel.

On the inlet 9 is sleeved a conduit 11 preferably of rubber or other flexible material, said conduit being connected to a tip 12 on the bottom 13 of the handle 1, said tip and bottom having an opening 14 therethrough.

The rubber conduit 11 passes adjacent the shoulder 15, finger 16 pivoted at 17 being adapted to press against the conduit when so urged by the offset end 18 of the actuator rod 19. The position of the parts as shown by the dotted lines in Figs. 5 and 7 shows the finger and actuator rod in flow shutoff position. The rod 19 is guided by member 20 and passage 21 which is formed longitudinally of the handle 1 and preferably on the interior thereof. At the upper end of the rod 19, a slotted opening 22 is provided in the handle 1, and the rod is bent as shown at 23 terminating in a finger piece 24 by means of which the rod may be actuated. The cap 2 may have an opening 25 therethrough if desired to provide vent means from the reservoir and to prevent a vacuum from forming. It has been found, however, that such vent is ordinarily not necessary.

In wax application, the head is provided with a head covering or pad 26 of any suitable material. This pad is held in place by a retaining spring 27 having two longitudinal grip portions 28, a transverse portion 29 and two short arms 30, said last-named arms being bent upwardly when detached from the head (see Fig. 2) and receivable in the lugs 31 which are secured to the head 4. The pad 26 is placed on the head and the retaining spring 27, which is of a resilient material, is placed with the two longitudinal portions 28 atop the edges 32 of the pad, the short arms 30 are forced down and inserted in the openings 33 of the lugs 31. The inherent re-

siliency of the spring 27 will tend to hold it and the pad in proper position. The transverse portion 28 of the spring 27 is slightly offset providing means for gripping and raising the spring member 27 during insertion or removal on the head.

In operating the device the cap 2 is removed and liquid wax poured into the reservoir or hollow handle 1. With the conduit or line 11 open the wax will flow therethrough and distribute itself throughout the groove or channel 8, from there passing through openings 10 to saturate the pad 26. When the pad is sufficiently moistened, the conduit between the head and the reservoir is closed or constricted by controlling the finger 16 through movement of rod 19. The applicator is grasped by the handle and moved across the surface to be waxed. A smooth, even coat of liquid wax will be applied to the surface and no polishing or rubbing will be necessary. The quality of the waxed surface will depend, of course, on the grade of wax used. The valve is manipulated as desired to provide an even and continuous flow of wax.

After the applicator has been used and it is desired to clean it, the pad 26 is removed and the surplus wax in the reservoir may be removed by disconnecting the conduit 11 from the inlet 9 and allowing the wax to gravitate into a suitable container; or the cap 2 may be removed and the surplus wax poured out from the end of the handle 1. The conduit may then be replaced and the valve closed. After filling the reservoir with warm water and positioning the device in a suitable container, the valve may be opened allowing the water to flow through the conduit, the distributing channel 8 and out through the openings 10, all surplus wax therein being washed out in an efficient and expeditious manner.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided an inexpensive, simple wax applicator, easy to operate and efficient in performance. The handle serves as the wax reservoir, means are provided for easily removing and replacing the applicator cloth or pad. The flow of liquid wax is readily controlled by the operator from means right at his finger tips. No stooping or bending over is necessary in using the device, it merely being a matter of moving the head across the floor and controlling the flow of wax to provide an even, smooth coat on the surface being waxed. The device may be easily and quickly cleaned and stored in a small space.

I do not wish to be limited to the exact details of construction shown since it is obvious that changes in form, proportion and other details may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of my invention.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A wax applicator comprising a hollow handle forming a reservoir for liquid wax, a head carried by the handle, a flexible conduit between the reservoir and the head for passage of liquid wax to said head and means for constricting the flexible conduit to control the flow of liquid wax therethrough.

2. A wax applicator comprising a hollow handle forming a reservoir for liquid wax, a head carried by the handle, a flexible conduit between the reservoir and the head for passage of liquid wax to said head and means for constricting the flexible conduit to control the flow of liquid wax therethrough, said constricting means having operating means controllable from a position adjacent the upper end of the handle.

LLOYD J. SUDDARTH.