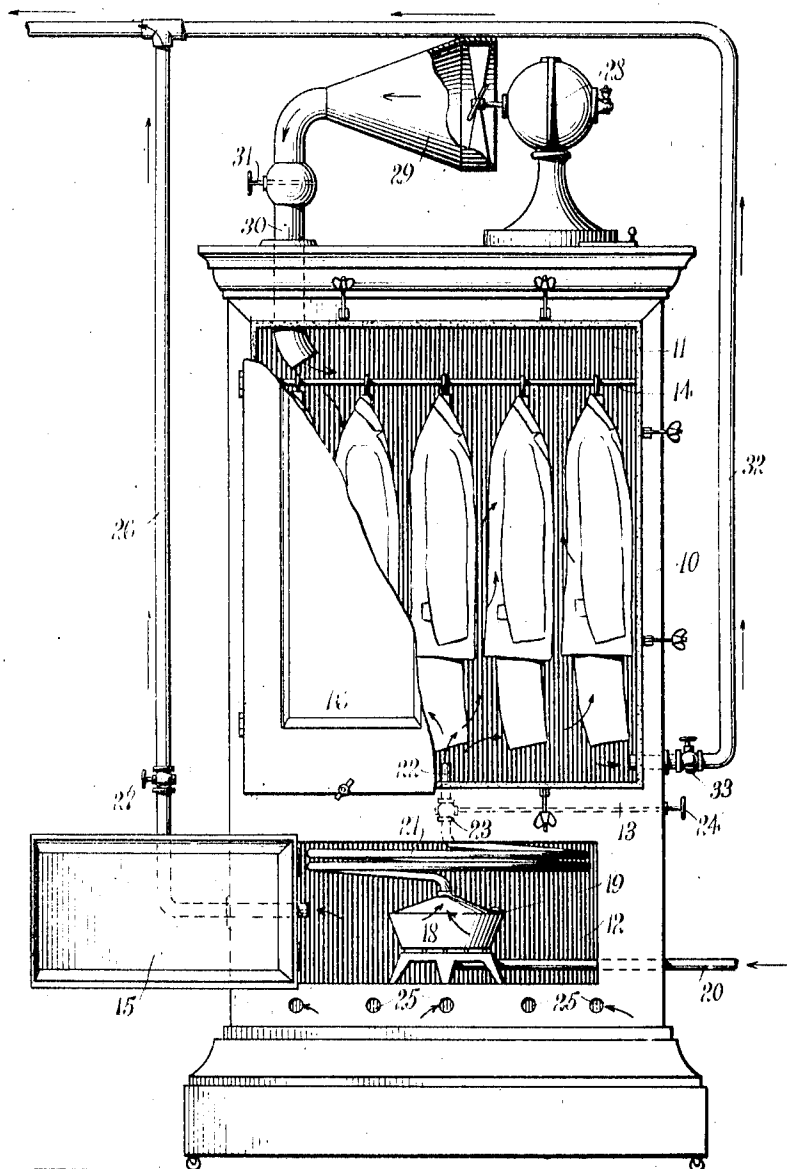


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DISINFECTING AND SPONGING APPARATUS.  
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 1, 1910.

1,035,676.

Patented Aug. 13, 1912.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL BARUCH AND MORRIS J. BARUCH, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

DISINFECTING AND SPONGING APPARATUS.

1,035,676.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 13, 1912.

Application filed September 1, 1910. Serial No. 580,037.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, SAMUEL BARUCH and MORRIS J. BARUCH, both citizens of the United States, and residents of the city of New York, borough of the Bronx, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Disinfecting and Sponging Apparatus, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to certain improvements in apparatus for treating clothing or other articles with disinfecting vapor or gas.

In our improved apparatus, we embody in a single casing or container, the supports for the articles to be disinfected or cleaned and the apparatus for generating the disinfecting gas or vapor. The parts are so constructed that after the articles are placed in the casing, the disinfecting apparatus may be started in operation and the clothing or other articles completely disinfected, and then all of the remaining gas and odor driven out of the casing by fresh air before the casing is opened. Thus, when the articles are taken out, none of the disinfecting gas will escape into the room.

Our improved apparatus is especially designed for use by tailors in small tailor shops, and is so constructed that the disinfecting gas after performing its work, is driven through a suitable conduit leading to the outside of the building, so that it will not make its presence known in the shop.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which the single figure shows a front view of an apparatus constructed in accordance with our invention, portions thereof being broken away.

In the specific form illustrated, there is employed a portable casing or cabinet 10, divided into an upper compartment 11 and a lower compartment 12, by means of a suitable partition 13. Within the upper compartment are arranged a plurality of supports upon which the articles to be treated are suspended. For disinfecting or sponging clothes, the supports may be in the form of one or more transversely-extending rods 14, adapted to support garment hangers. The upper and lower compartments are separate and distinct from each other, and each compartment may be lined with asbestos, sheet metal or other suitable non-combustible material, and the walls, par-

ticularly of the lower compartment, are formed of suitable thicknesses of non-conducting material. The lining of the upper compartment is such that the compartment may be closed substantially air-tight, so that none of the disinfecting gases can escape into the room. The lower compartment is provided with a suitable closure 15, by means of which access may be gained to the interior thereof, and the upper part has a large door 16, adapted to be closed air-tight. As shown, this door is hinged at one side and along the other three sides of the door casing are pivot bolts, which may be swung into position and tightened to retain the door when the latter is closed.

Within the lower compartment is a suitable generator for the disinfecting material. This material is preferably a mixture of acetone and water, although any other suitable disinfectant may be employed, if desired. As shown, the generator consists of a small metal retort 18, having a screw cap closure 19, upon the removal of which the mixture may be poured into the retort. Beneath the retort is a suitable burner connected to a gas pipe 20, whereby the retort may be heated, and disposed above the retort is a coil of pipe 21, the inlet end of which is connected to the retort and the outlet end of which terminates in a nozzle 22, disposed in the lower portion of the upper compartment. Adjacent the nozzle is a valve 23, by means of which the supply of gas or vapor to the upper compartment may be controlled. The valve preferably has its stem 24 extending to the exterior of the cabinet, so that the valve may be controlled without necessitating the opening of either of the closures. In the lower portion of the lower compartment 12, we provide a plurality of air openings 25, so that fresh air may gain access to the burner, and from the lower compartment leads a conduit 26, through which the hot gases of combustion and the hot air from the vicinity of the retort may be conducted to the exterior of the building. This conduit has a suitable valve 27, which may be closed, if desired, to prevent the return of the gases.

Mounted upon the top of the cabinet, is a suitable electric fan 28, serving to deliver a blast of air to a funnel-shaped receiver 29. From this receiver a conduit 30 leads to the interior of the upper compartment, and within the conduit is a suitable valve 31.

An outlet conduit 32 leads from the lower portion of the upper compartment and unites with the conduit 26. A suitable valve 33 controls this conduit 32.

15 In the use of our improved apparatus for disinfecting, the clothing or other articles are placed in the upper compartment, the door 16 is closed, and sealed air-tight, and the valves 23, 31 and 33 are closed. The  
20 disinfecting material is placed in the retort 18, the valve 27 is opened, and the gas is turned on at the burner. The vapors generate or create a pressure in the retort and conduit 21, and when sufficient pressure has  
25 been attained, the valve 23 may be opened to deliver the hot disinfecting gases or vapors to the upper compartment. After the articles have been thoroughly disinfected, the gas is shut off at the burner, the valve 23 is  
30 closed and the valves 31 and 33 are opened. The fan is then started in operation, and a current of fresh air is conducted to the interior of the upper compartment to force the gases from the latter out through the conduit 32. The fan is kept in action for a  
35 sufficient length of time to effect a thorough and complete change of air in the upper compartment, and to conduct away all odors or noxious gases. The door 16 may then be  
40 opened and the thoroughly disinfected articles may be removed without any of the disinfecting gases escaping into the room.

It will be noted that the air draft is delivered by the fan through the top of the  
35 chamber 11 and that the outlet pipe 32 communicates with the chamber, 11, near the bottom. This is because the disinfecting vapor is heavy, and, after being heated and forced into the chamber 11 under pressure,  
40 tends to settle to the lower part of the chamber 11 as it cools off. By forcing the air blast in from above and connecting the pipe to chamber 11 near the bottom, the vapors are more easily and thoroughly forced out  
45 of the chamber 11.

From the above description it will be seen that the compartment 11 constitutes a disinfecting compartment in which the articles are treated, and the compartment 12 constitutes a generating compartment in which the vapors by means of which the articles in the disinfecting compartment are treated, are produced.

The apparatus is very simple in construction and does not require a skilled operator

to manipulate it. It may be installed in any small tailor shop without involving any special reconstructing or building in the latter, and it will serve not only to disinfect the articles, but will tend to ventilate the  
60 shop.

Instead of placing a disinfecting material in the retainer 18, water may be placed therein and dry steam delivered to clothing suspended in the upper compartment, to  
65 shrink or sponge the latter.

Various changes may be made in the construction and operation of our improved apparatus, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

70 Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

A disinfecting apparatus comprising a casing or cabinet, the interior of which is  
75 divided into a generating compartment and a disinfecting compartment, a vapor generator in the generating compartment, means for heating said generator, an outlet pipe leading from said generating compartment,  
80 means providing communication between the generator and the disinfecting compartment to give passage to the vapors formed in the generator, an outlet pipe communicating with the disinfecting compartment at  
85 a point adjacent the bottom thereof and connected with the outlet leading from the generating compartment, an inlet pipe communicating with the top of the disinfecting compartment, said inlet pipe having an enlarged  
90 outer end, a fan located in said enlarged outer end for forcing a stream of air into said pipe and said disinfecting compartment, and means for permitting access to each of said compartments, whereby after  
95 the process of disinfecting is finished, the disinfecting vapors sinking to the bottom of the disinfecting compartment can be blown out by the air supplied by said fan and the contents of the disinfecting compartment  
100 removed by the means permitting access thereto.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

SAMUEL BARUCH.  
MOSES J. BARUCH.

Witnesses:

CLAIR W. FAIRBANK,  
PHILIP D. ROLLHAUS.