

May 24, 1927.

1,629,862

E. L. FABER

TYPE CLEANING COMPOUND

Filed May 8, 1925

Fig. 1

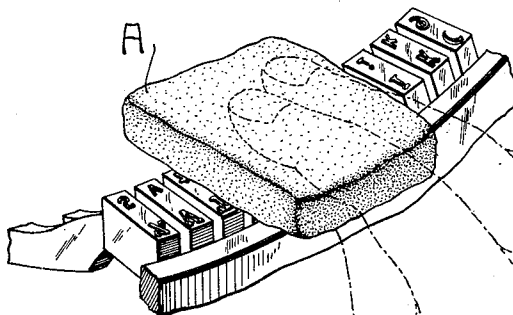


Fig. 2

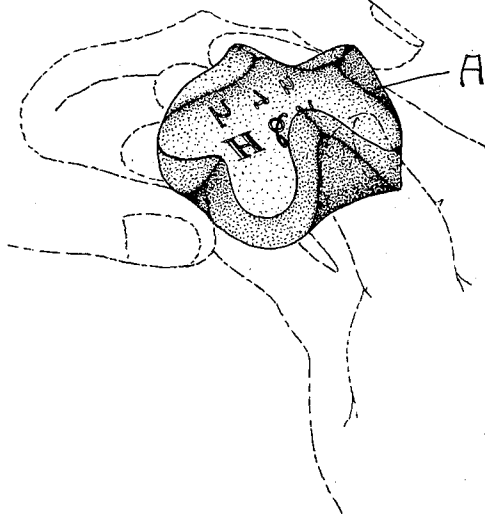
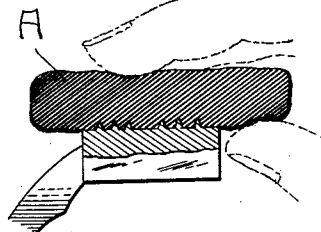


Fig. 3



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Patented May 24, 1927.

1,629,862

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TYPE-CLEANING COMPOUND.

Application filed May 8, 1925. Serial No. 28,831.

This invention relates to an article particularly intended for cleaning the type faces of typewriting machines and the like, one object of the invention being to provide a plastic or pliable composition of matter which in part will absorb and to which will adhere dirt, ink, fibrous particles, etc., commonly found in the recesses of a type face, whereby dirt, etc. can be removed from type faces by merely pressing a block formed of said compound against the type faces.

Other objects are to provide such a composition of matter which shall always be soft and plastic, which will in part absorb and to which will easily quickly adhere dirt, etc., which is pleasing in appearance and unobjectionable to handle, which will withstand repeated kneading and pressure for a long period of time without disintegration and without losing its plastic and dirt attracting qualities, and to obtain other results and advantages as may be brought out by the following description.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, in which the same reference characters designate corresponding and like parts throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the block in use;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the block showing the manner of kneading it after use, and

Figure 3 is a sectional view showing how the material of the block is pressed into the recesses of the type faces.

I have discovered that the most suitable composition of matter for a type cleaner of the character described includes a base or body of some powdered inert mineral substance or salt, such as calcium carbonate preferably in the form of Paris white, or kaolin, talc or calcium sulphate; a binder and absorbent material such as liquid and plastic rubber; factice or a vulcanized oil, generally known as rubber substitute, such as rapeseed oil, castor oil, soya bean oil, linseed oil or other drying vegetable oil vulcanized with sulphurous chloride; a mineral filler and brightening substance, such as lithopone or barium sulphate; a slightly volatile mineral oil, for example signal oil or mineral oil having a specific gravity of 38 Baumé, a flash point of 260 degrees Fahrenheit, a fire point of 300 degrees Fahrenheit and a boiling point of 510 degrees Fahrenheit, or oil known to the trade as Standard oil No. 12 or No. 5; a softening agent or emollient, such as glycerine, beef tallow or vaseline (petroleum jelly), to eliminate tackiness and maintain the compound moist; and a suitable organic coloring material as well as a trace of essential oil as a deodorant.

These ingredients or their equivalents are preferably mechanically mixed in the following proportions, rubber (3 to 5 pounds; factice, 4 to 7 pounds; Paris white, 19 to 32 pounds; lithopone, 3 to 5 pounds; mineral oil, 6 to 10 pounds; glycerine, 1 to 2 pounds; coloring material, 1 to 2 ounces.

These ingredients may be placed in a suitable receptacle and mechanically mixed in any suitable manner and with any suitable apparatus until an intimate mechanical mixture has been produced. The mixture is then preferably sheeted as my means of rolls and subsequently cut up into blocks or cakes of the desired size.

It has been found that for the purpose of cleaning type faces of typewriting machines, a cake substantially rectangular in plan and cross-section such as indicated at A in Figure 1 of the drawings, is the most suitable shape, since the flat and broad faces of the cake can be easily and uniformly pressed against the type faces, and such a cake is also more easily handled than a cake having a curved configuration. The cake so formed is plastic and easily deformable, and at the same time effectively withstands pressure in all directions and resists tearing and abrading action. Due to the presence of the rubber, it is also somewhat resilient so that it tends to retain its normal shape. It is not tacky or sticky so that there is no difficulty in handling it, and it will not adhere to any surface upon which it is laid.

In use, the cake is pressed against the type faces with sufficient pressure to cause some of the material to enter into all of the recesses of the type faces and closely conform thereto, after which the cake is lifted from the type faces. The ink, dirt, fibrous material incident to erasures on paper, etc., are absorbed by or adhere to the cake and are lifted from the type faces thereby. Also the Paris white serves in effect as a polishing substance and in connection with the mineral oil polishes the faces of the type so as to leave them bright and clean. After the cake has been used for cleaning type, it may be

folded and kneaded as indicated in Figure 2 of the drawings to embed the dirt, etc. which has been taken from the type faces within the cake, after which the cake may be again flattened to its original configuration and a clean surface presented which prevents soiling of the fingers and serves for the next cleaning operation.

It appears that the rubber provides the necessary plasticity and absorbs the liquids such as the oils, also binding together the other ingredients. The factice appears to have an affinity for the dirt, etc., which causes the dirt to stick to the surface of the cake. The Paris white serves as a body for the cake and also as an abrading or polishing material, while the lithopone or barium sulphate serves as a filler to make the cake of fine and smooth texture. The oil softens the compound and the glycerine beef tallow or vaseline eliminates tackiness, and the coloring matter and essential oil serve merely to produce an attractive color and deodorize the composition, respectively.

While I have shown and described the type cleaner of a certain shape and embodying a certain composition of matter, it will be understood that the shape of the cleaner and the composition and the proportions of the ingredients thereof may be varied by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention. Therefore, I do not desire to be understood as limiting myself except as required by the following claims when construed in the light of the prior art.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

1. A composition of matter for cleaning type, consisting of a base of powdered inert mineral substance, plastic rubber, factice, a heavy mineral filler, a slightly volatile mineral oil, and emollient.

2. A type cleaner comprising a plastic cake formed of a mechanical mixture of Paris white, plastic rubber, lithopone, factice, a slightly volatile mineral oil, and an emollient.

3. A composition of matter for cleaning type, consisting of powdered calcium carbonate, plastic rubber, factice, a heavy mineral filler, a slightly volatile mineral oil, and an emollient.

4. A composition of matter for cleaning type, consisting of a mechanical mixture of the following ingredients in the proportions named; 3 to 5 pounds of a plastic rubber; 4 to 7 pounds of factice; 19 to 32 pounds of powdered inert mineral substance; 3 to 5 pounds of heavy mineral filler, 6 to 10 pounds of slightly volatile mineral oil; and 1 to 2 pounds of an emollient.

5. A composition of matter for cleaning type, consisting of a mechanical mixture of the following ingredients in the proportions named; 3 to 5 pounds of plastic rubber; 4 to 7 pounds of factice; 19 to 32 pounds of powdered calcium carbonate; 3 to 5 pounds of lithopone; 6 to 10 pounds of a slightly volatile mineral oil; and 1 to 2 pounds of glycerine.

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