E. H. DARCHE.

MOISTENER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 13, 1919.

1,438,638.

Patented Dec. 12, 1922.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

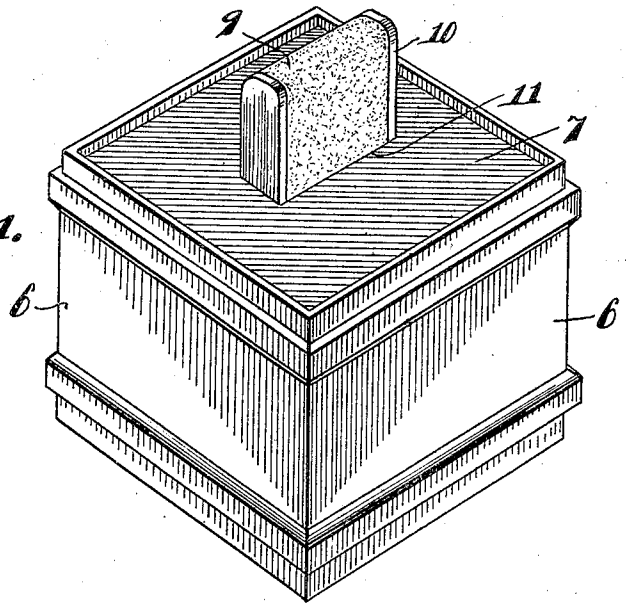
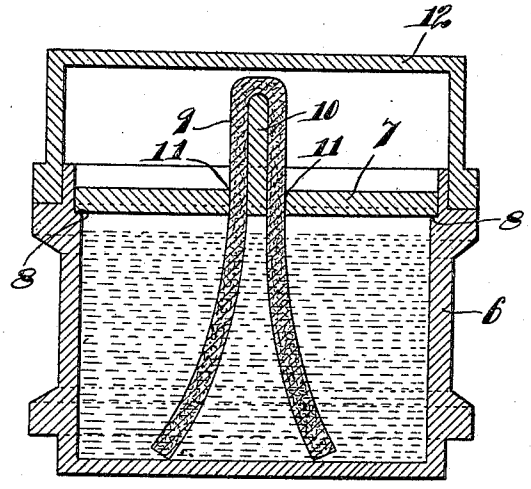


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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A. A. Olsen

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

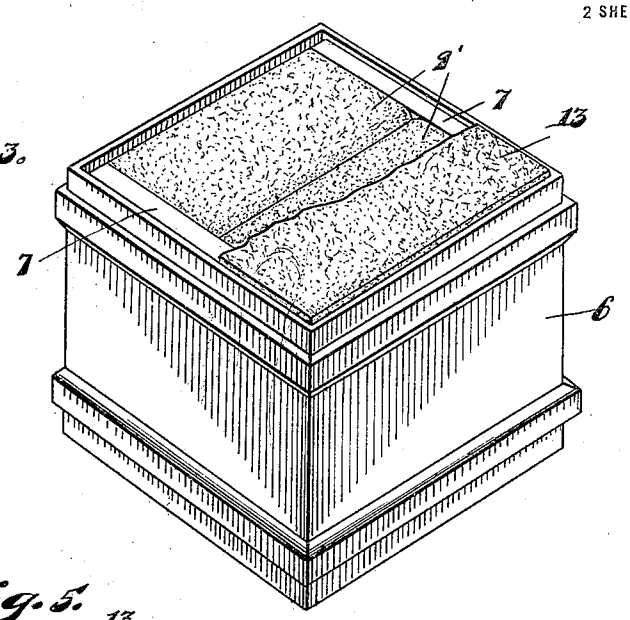


Fig. 5.

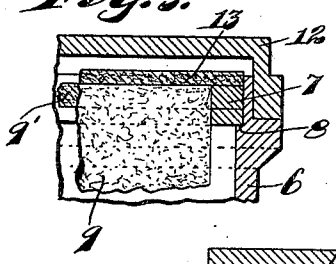
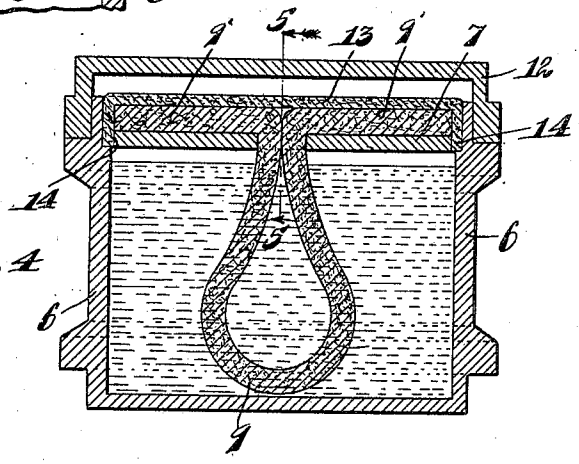


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE H. DARCHE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

MOISTENER.

Application filed January 13, 1919. Serial No. 270,845.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EUGENE H. DARCHE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Moisteners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in moisteners for commercial use in offices, banks, and the like, and has for its object the production of a device of this character which will be of durable and economical construction and highly efficient in use.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists in the combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, and in which,

Fig. 1, is a perspective view of a moistener embodying one form of the invention,

Fig. 2, a vertical section of a moistener of the form shown in Fig. 1,

Fig. 3, a view similar to Fig. 1, of another form of the moistener,

Fig. 4, a vertical section of a moistener of the form shown in Fig. 3, and

Fig. 5, a fragmentary section taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

The preferred form of construction, as illustrated in the drawings, comprises a liquid receptacle 6 which is open at the upper end, the same being provided with a removable closure 7 which is loosely supported upon an internal shoulder 8 provided at the upper end of said receptacle.

Supported by said closure in the form shown in Figs. 1 and 2, is a wick 9, of felt or other suitable absorbent material, the same being doubled upon itself and arranged with the bight or upper portion thereof passing over a centrally positioned rib or flange 10 arising from closure 7. Said closure at opposite sides of the rib 10 is formed with openings 11 through which the ends of the wick pass, said wick ends depending to the bottom of the receptacle, as seen. A suitable cap 12 is provided to cover the upper end of the device when not in use.

This form of the device is designed for use especially in moistening the fingers, or the thumb and finger, such as is of special advantage in counting paper money. With the construction disclosed, the user needs only to grip the upwardly projecting rib 10 between the thumb and finger and press the same. The wick, of course, will always be damp, the liquid contained in the receptacle passing up through the wick by capillary attraction to the exposed portion thereof, that is, the portion extending over the rib 10. This being so, when said rib is gripped between the thumb and finger, as above described, the exposed portion of the wick will be compressed and enough liquid forced therefrom to moisten the thumb and finger, as desired. Also with this arrangement, if desired, the liquid may be in the form of an antiseptic, so that the moistening of the fingers as mentioned will, at the same time, result in disinfecting the same against any germs which might gather thereon from handling paper money or other instruments.

In the form shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, a wick 9 is provided in which the central portion or bight thereof depends into the receptacle and in which the ends 9′ thereof project through the closure 7 and lie flat upon the top thereof. The closure is, however, supported upon an internal shoulder 8 in precisely the same manner as the closure of the first described form. In this form, however, an additional pad or covering 13 of wicking is provided, which covers the ends 9′ of the wick 9, the ends of member 13 being extended over the opposite edges of the closure 7 which are cut away as at 14, as clearly seen in Fig. 4.

This form of moistener is designed for use especially in the moistening of stamps, envelopes, or other adhesive-provided surfaces, the article to be moistened being placed against the member 13 and pressed lightly against the same to force some of the moisture therefrom. The moisture, of course, finds its way into the member 13 through capillary attraction, the liquid in the bottom of the receptacle 6 passing upwardly in the wick to the ends 9′ thereof, whence the same passes into the member 13.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred forms of construction for carrying my invention into effect, these are capable of variation and modification without departing from the spirit of the invention. I, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the precise details of construction set forth, but desire to avail myself of such

variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A moistener comprising a liquid receptacle; a wick extending downwardly into said receptacle to the bottom thereof and having a portion of its upper end exposed; a flat closure for the upper end of said receptacle supporting said exposed portion of said wick, and a flat covering of absorbent material arranged over and contacting with said exposed portion of said wick and having its ends held by said closure, substantially as described.

2. A moistener comprising a liquid receptacle; a wick extending downwardly into said receptacle to the bottom thereof and having a portion of its upper end exposed; a flat closure for the upper end of said receptacle arranged within the same and supporting said exposed portion of said wick, said closure being of a width less than the corresponding dimension of said receptacle leaving spaces at opposite ends of said closure; and a flat covering of absorbent material arranged over and contacting with said exposed portion of said wick and having its ends bent downwardly into engagement with the spaces at the ends of said closure, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EUGENE H. DARCHE.

Witnesses:
JOSHUA R. H. POTTS,
HELEN F. LILLIS.