

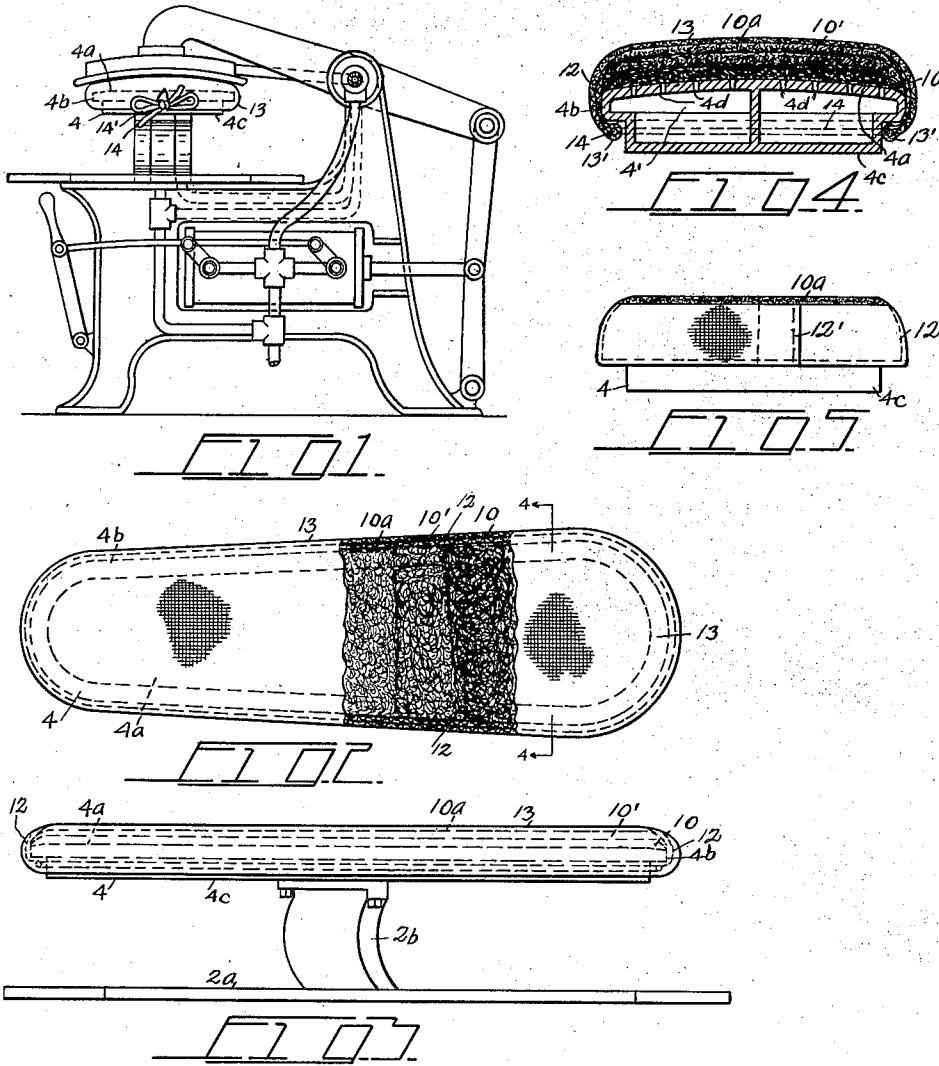
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PADDING FOR CLOTHES PRESSING MACHINES

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PADDING FOR CLOTHES-PRESSING MACHINES.

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This invention relates to power press ironers, and has particular reference to an improved padding for the heated buck or press-block.

5 The object of the invention is to provide a novel construction and arrangement of the padding or cushion, which is usually applied to the ironing surface of the buck of a clothes pressing machine. A further object
0 is to provide a padding of the class, which will withstand the relatively high heat of the buck without danger of scorching or charring, and at the same time be proof against sogginess and the resultant loss of springiness, due to excessive moisture occasioned by the spraying of the articles during certain pressing operations with steam emitted by the buck. A further object is to provide a water-proof and fire-proof padding comprising
10 wool-like steel or other metal shavings, which are naturally resilient and will withstand frequent compression without lessening their springiness, the said shavings being arranged in superposed layers upon the buck, and the several layers comprising shavings
15 of coarse, medium and fine strands, the said layers being held in place and in close contact primarily by a flexible fibrous band or belt like canvas of suitable breadth, that skirts the perimeter of the pad and buck and prevents fraying and distorting of the edges of the layers. And a further object is to provide a stout fine-mesh fabric covering or jacket that overlies the whole of the padding
20 and is detachably secured beneath the buck.

I attain these objects by the means set forth in the detailed description which follows, and as illustrated by the accompanying drawing, in which—

25 Figure 1 is an end elevation of a power press ironer, to which my improvement is applied, showing the fibrous covering detachably secured to the buck. Fig. 2 is an enlarged broken top plan view of the buck; showing the several layers of the padding.
30 Fig. 3 is a front side elevation of the same. Fig. 4 is an enlarged vertical cross-section, taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 2. And Fig. 5 is an end elevation of the padded buck, showing the belt that binds the side and end
35 edges of the padding.

In the drawing, 2 represents conventionally a clothes pressing machine that supports the usual hollow heated buck or press-

block, as 4, upon which the articles to be
40 pressed are spread.

The buck 4 is provided with a divided closed compartment 4', which is charged with steam, the top of said chamber comprising the ironing surface 4^a, which is
45 formed with a continuous flange 4^b that extends beyond the sides and ends of a reduced portion 4^c. The top 4^a is usually heavily padded with suitable cushion material. Ordinarily this padding comprises one or more
50 layers, which are usually spread directly upon the cast-iron surface 4^a, and are then held in place by a covering which is secured beneath the flange of the buck. This older padding usually consists of thick wool felt, and being subjected to the relatively high
55 temperature of the buck, ordinarily lasts but a few weeks. This constant heating of the padding scorches and chars the felt and destroys the cushion effect of the padding.
60 The padding of the buck is also subjected to more or less moisture due to the practice of passing steam upwardly through the top 4^a and the felt for spraying and dampening the articles, and when pressing work of this
65 character continues for long intervals, the padding, owing to its absorbent nature, becomes soggy, which again destroys the cushion action and renders the pressing imperfect. This alternate overheating and
70 wetting of the common felt padding necessitates the frequent replacing of the padding, which not only occasions loss of the operator's time and interrupts the service of the machine, but greatly increases the cost of
75 maintenance. To overcome these defects, I have devised a novel and practically indestructible padding, which will now be described:

My improved padding preferably consists
80 of the well-known wool-like steel shavings, a waste product of the lathes of certain machine shops. These shavings are of several varieties or grades as to quality and character: some of the shavings being relatively
85 coarse and stiff, and others being relatively fine and flexible or springy. In constructing my padding, a quantity of the coarser shavings is first spread evenly over the pressing
90 surface 4^a of the buck, or over a similarly shaped wooden or other form, as indicated at 10 in Figs. 2, 3 and 4. Upon this initial or
95 base layer is then spread a similar quantity

of the medium grade shavings, as at 10', after which is spread a final layer of the relatively fine grain shavings, as 10^a. The several grades of shavings should preferably be arranged in layers of even thickness throughout and the side and end margins are preferably feathered, in order to round said margins, as shown in Fig. 4. After the layers of shavings are superposed, as explained, the side and end margins are preferably securely bound by a band or binders, as 12, of any suitable fabric, such as canvas, which may be overlapped and sewed, as at 12' in Fig. 5. The band 12 preferably underlaps the flange 4^b of the buck, and its top portion preferably conforms to the inward curving of the padding, as shown in Fig. 5. The top margin of the binders 12 preferably terminates a slight distance below the top surface of the layer 10^a of the shavings, so as not to unduly compress and destroy the resilience or cushion action of the said layer. After the padding is built up layer by layer and the binder 12 is applied, the whole is then enclosed by a canvas or other relatively fine woven fabric, as 13, which comprises a hood-like covering or jacket, whose free margin is preferably hemmed to form a continuous loop, as 13', which extends below the flange 4^b, and through which is threaded a gathering or drawing cord 14, by which the said margin may be drawn tight and detachably secured beneath said flange, the ends of the cord 14 usually being tied in a bow-knot, as 14', at one end of the buck, as shown in Fig. 1. The top 4^a of the buck is usually perforated, as at 4^d, for the emission of steam for spraying the articles during certain pressing operations.

My metallic padding is practically indestructible, and when properly constructed and arranged lasts for a year or more without losing its resilience or cushion action. The steel shavings may be obtained at small cost and the whole padding may be produced more cheaply than the older felt pads

in common use, and is less liable to deteriorate by long and hard usage.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, is—

1. A padding for a heated buck of a clothes pressing machine comprising a number of layers of steel shavings, the shavings of said layers progressively decreasing in coarseness from the lowermost to the uppermost layer, and a fibrous covering enclosing the layers and underlapping the margin of the buck.

2. A resilient padding for the buck of a clothes pressing machine comprising a number of superposed layers of metal shavings, the shavings of said layers being of varying degrees of coarseness, the marginal portions of the layers being feathered, and a closely woven tight fitting fibrous jacket enclosing said layers, the margin of the jacket being hemmed, and means engaging the hem for securing said jacket and enclosed layers to the buck.

3. A padding for pressing machine bucks comprising contiguous superposed layers of resilient metal shavings, the shavings of the bottom layer being coarse, the next layer being of finer material, and the topmost layer being of still finer material, a fibrous band enveloping the perimeter of the padding, and a fibrous hood overlying the superposed layers and said band.

4. A metallic padding for a pressing machine buck having a flange, said padding being adapted to overlie the buck and being composed of layers whose margins are feathered, and the strands of the layers decreasing in caliber from the bottom towards the top of the padding, a band enveloping and conforming to the feathered margin of the padding and the flange of the buck to which the padding is applied, and a jacket of fine-mesh fabric overspreading the padding and adapted to underlap the flange of the buck.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

RALPH ROCCO.