July 18, 1933. R. B. BAKER 1,918,793

LAUNDRY BAG

Filed May 18, 1932

FIG. 2.

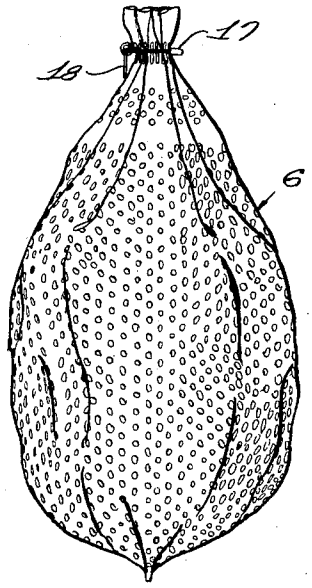


FIG. 1.

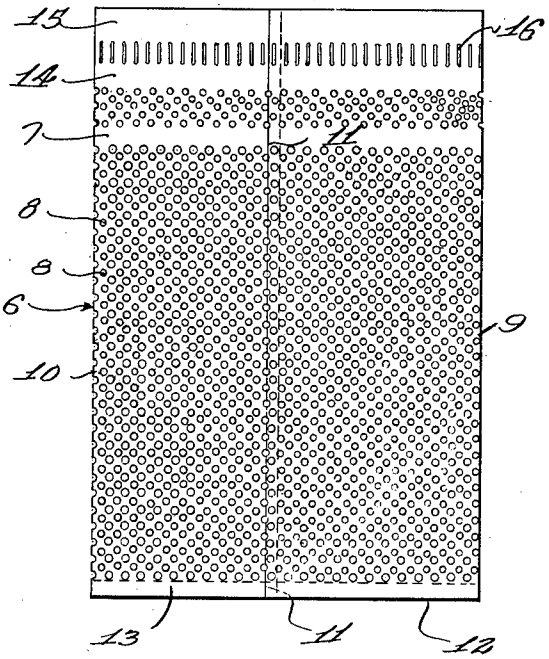
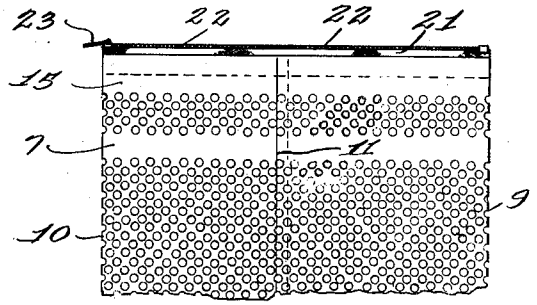


FIG. 3.



FIG. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

RALPH B. BAKER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

LAUNDRY BAG

Application filed May 18, 1932. Serial No. 611,989.

This invention relates to laundry bags and will be described as incorporated in a container for confining the articles of laundry to prevent dispersement thereof during the washing and drying process.

Heretofore, it has been the practice to use net bags made of cotton or like material, in which the laundry was placed for washing. Many objections to the use of such a bag might be set forth at length, however, it will suffice to mention the more important ones here.

It has been found that the net bags formed of cotton and the like rapidly deteriorate when constantly exposed to moisture and to the relatively caustic washing fluids which are being used. The cotton net is subject to shrinkage thus reducing the capacity thereof. Another objection to the use of a cotton net is that the cotton absorbs a large quantity of the washing fluid making it necessary to use a larger amount of fluid to wash a predetermined weight of laundry. It has been found that it is very impractical to repair a cotton net after it has been torn, because of the excess strain to which it is subjected during the laundering operation. A cotton net laundry bag has a relatively high co-efficient of friction not only on the parts of the washing machine which cause the laundry bag to be worn away, but also on the clothing and other laundry within the bag, causing a rapid wearing away of the laundry. Another disadvantage of using a cotton bag is that the lint worn from the bag is frequently deposited on the clothing, and when the clothing is delivered to the customer it gives the impression that the lint has been worn from the clothing and which causes customers to discontinue sending their clothes to a commercial laundry.

Not the least of the objections to the use of a cotton net is the fact that the cost of renewing the cotton net bags is excessive, being approximately 2% of the gross receipts of a laundry.

An object of this invention is the provision of an improved device of the class identified which overcomes the objections above set forth. Another object is the provision of an improved laundry bag which is elastic and non-absorbent and will more effectively resist wear and deterioration.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent from the following detailed description, together with the accompanying drawing.

On the drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a laundry bag incorporating my invention, and shown as lying flat on a table.

Figure 2 is an elevational view of the bag shown in Figure 1, illustrating the same as when filled with clothing or other laundry ready to be washed.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken through the material of which the bag is composed and illustrating that the same is elastic and will yield at an intermediate point with the end portions stationary; and

Figure 4 is a plan view of a modified form of my invention illustrating a fragment thereof as when lying flat on a table.

As shown on the drawing:

The laundry container 6 as shown in Figures 1 and 2 consists of a sheet 7 of elastic material, preferably rubber, which may be a net formed in any desirable manner. For purposes of illustration, I have shown in the drawing a sheet of rubber having a multiplicity of perforations 8 therethrough which are disposed relatively close to each other to provide for the ingress and egress of washing fluid for the purpose of washing the laundry. The sheet of material is folded forming edges 9 and 10. The folded over edges of the sheet are suitably secured together at 11 as by cementing or vulcanizing as may be desired. The bottom edges of the sheet as folded over are suitably secured together at 12, resulting in the formation of a sack or bag of elastic mesh open at the top.

Adjacent the bottom of the bag, a portion 13 is provided which is free from perforation to reinforce the same at the point where it is subject to considerable strain. Adjacent the top of the bag as indicated at 14 and 15, the bag is free from perforation for the purpose of reinforcing the bag adjacent the top where it may normally receive a great amount

of strain as a result of handling the bag when filled with laundry. Between the portions 14 and 15, are disposed a plurality of parallel slots 16 through which a large safety pin or the like 17 may be threaded when the top of the bag is gathered together in the manner shown in Figure 2. A suitable tag 18 is preferably fixed on the pin 17 for identifying the laundry.

In Figure 4 is illustrated a modification of my invention comprising a sheet of material folded and secured in the same manner as described with reference to Figure 1, but other means is disclosed for releasably locking the open end of the bag in closed position. Such means consists of a reinforcing binder 21 of suitable material such as non-elastic reinforced rubber or fabric preferably vulcanized within the material of the laundry bag and extending thereabove as illustrated, providing a suitable support for a hookless fastener of any well known construction comprising a relatively stationary elements 22, and a movable member 23, for locking the elements 22 on opposite sides of the open top, in interengaging position.

Figure 3 illustrates the manner in which an elastic sack of the type herein described is capable of yielding and stretching, when a number of bags may be crowded together in such a condition that both ends of a bag may be held sufficiently tight to make them relatively stationary, and at the same time pressure may be applied to an intermediate portion which would cause excessive strain were it not for the fact that the material is elastic. In devices of the prior art, such strain caused particularly when the laundry bags are in the centrifugal drier, result in a tearing of the bags which makes the same useless because of the fact that cotton bags cannot be successfully repaired. A bag of the type herein described if torn, may be readily repaired by any well known vulcanizing process.

It will be appreciated from the foregoing description that I have provided an improved laundry bag which exerts little or no wearing friction on the laundry, during the washing and drying process. A device of the kind above described is not subject to shrinkage as are cotton nets, and such a device has a much longer life and is capable of being readily repaired in case of damage. It has been found that laundry bags formed of a sheet of elastic netting may be more heavily loaded than the cotton bags thus resulting in a reduction in the number of sacks or bags necessary to be used for a given quantity of laundry. An elastic netting bag formed of rubber and the like is non-absorptive, resulting in a saving in the washing supplies and resulting in a saving of the power required to operate the laundry machinery. Various other advantages of my invention will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art.

While I have herein described the preferred forms of my invention, it will be understood that it is subject to variations and modifications without departing from the principle of the invention, and I desire that the patent to be granted hereon shall not be limited in any manner except as required by the prior art.

I claim as my invention:

1. A container in which laundry is adapted to be confined while being washed and dried consisting of a sack of elastic non-absorbent and water-impervious material, said sack having a multiplicity of perforations formed in the sides thereof, and means for releasably locking the open end of the sack.

2. A container in which laundry is adapted to be confined while being washed and dried, consisting of a sheet of water-impervious elastic rubber formed into a sack open at one end and having a multiplicity of apertures therethrough to facilitate the entrance and exit of washing fluid.

3. A laundry container in which laundry is adapted to be confined during washing and drying, said container being formed of rubber providing a substantially smooth inner confining surface, said container having apertures formed in the sides thereof for the ingress and egress of a washing fluid.

4. A laundry container in which laundry is adapted to be confined during washing and drying, said container being formed of an elastic material impervious to water and providing a substantially smooth inner confining surface, said container having apertures formed in the sides thereof for the ingress and egress of a washing fluid.

5. A laundry container in which laundry is adapted to be confined during washing and drying, said container being formed of water-impervious rubber, said container being provided with apertures in the sides thereof for the ingress and egress of a washing fluid.

6. A laundry bag having side walls and a bottom, and being adapted to confine articles to be washed and dried, said walls being formed of sheet rubber providing substantially smooth article-confining sides, and having apertures formed therein for the ingress and egress of a washing fluid.

RALPH B. BAKER.