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L. Y. BOOHARIN

2,395,094

WASHING DEVICE

Filed July 21, 1944

Fig. 1.

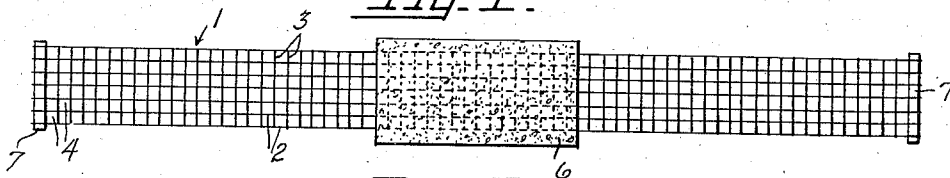


Fig. 2.

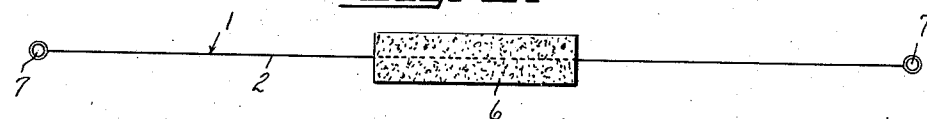


Fig. 3.

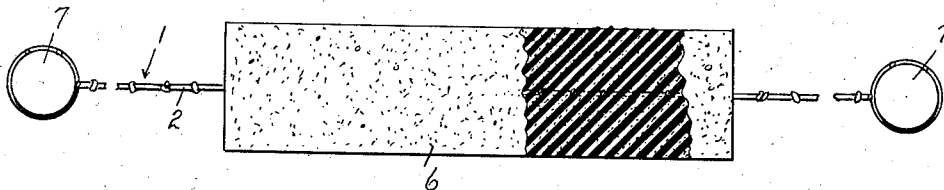
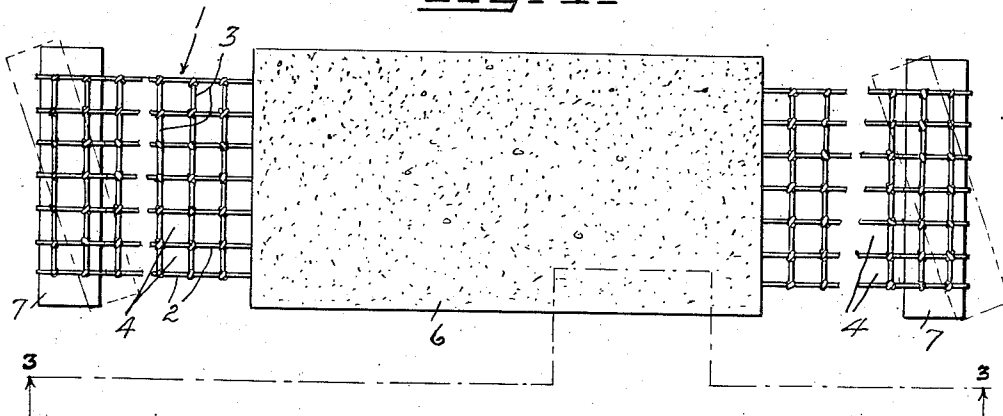


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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WASHING DEVICE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 15-244)

This invention relates to a washing device for bathing or cleansing purposes.

One of the objects of this invention is the provision of a very light, sanitary, economically manufactured washing device of the type having a belt-like web carrying a moisture absorbent sponge, and which device is adapted to be grasped at its ends by the opposite hands of a user for manual manipulation of the device, such as reciprocating the sponge across the back or any other desired part of the body.

Rubbing or massaging devices as well as washing devices have been heretofore produced, but insofar as I am aware, they either have been too heavy, or too costly to make, or they have included canvas or cloth that becomes soaked or waterlogged and remains damp for objectionably long periods of time. Also, in most prior structures the sponge material, where employed, is too easily damaged or loosened from the belt supporting the same, and the belts can be conveniently grasped at their ends only, thus making manipulation of the device awkward for persons having different length arms as well as limiting the convenient use of the device to one part of the body only, such as the back.

With the device of this invention all of the above objections are overcome.

In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a device showing the invention.

Fig. 2 is an edge view of the device of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged part elevational part sectional view of the device of Fig. 4 as seen from line 3-3 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged plan view of the device of Fig. 3.

In detail, I provide an elongated web 1 of relatively open work, flexible material, preferably formed of parallel longitudinally extending, relatively widely spaced strands 2 of such material, and parallel, relatively widely spaced cross-strands 3 of such material. This structure provides relatively large mesh openings 4 of uniform size in the web, and preferably there are at least four of these mesh openings transversely of the web, each of which is substantially of a size to pass a finger of the hand therethrough.

The material of these strands may be any fibrous material, but is preferably a quick drying, non-moisture absorbent material, such as "nylon" or other plastic material, or they may be of such material as cotton or other moisture absorbent material, but in such instances the web is preferably treated with a waterproofing plastic or

rubber, or the like, to prevent the strands from soaking up moisture.

This web may be several inches wide, preferably about three inches, and it may be from two to four feet in length, preferably about three feet.

Intermediate the ends of said web I secure a moisture absorbent sponge 6, which sponge preferably extends longitudinally of the web 1 and projects from opposite sides thereof as well as from opposite edges, and which is inseparably secured to the web through the portions at opposite sides of the web, being secured integrally together through the mesh openings of the web (Fig. 3). Also the material of the sponge may be secured to the strands themselves in any suitable manner, and by any suitable means.

The sponge 6 may be of sponge rubber, or it may be of any other moisture absorbent composition material industrially used in the place of conventional sponges or of sponge rubber.

To the ends of the web 1 may be secured relatively rigid hand holds or cross bars 7, although these are not absolutely necessary since the fingers of each hand at opposite ends of the mesh openings may be thrust therethrough. However, the bars 7 provide a more comfortable grip for the hands and in actual practice the fingers of the hands extend through the mesh openings upon gripping the bars 7.

In use, where a shorter grip is desired, the web is merely rolled on one or both bars 7 to shorten whichever end of the web desired, and then upon gripping the bars with the fingers extending through the mesh openings of the web adjacent each bar, the web will not unroll, but will remain rolled on the bars. This is a highly desirable feature in my invention.

In operation, when the hands grasp the ends of the web 1 or the bars 7, the sponge may be squeezed somewhat by tensioning the longitudinal strands at opposite edges of the web 1 in opposite directions by moving the bars 7 to dotted line positions. If this is done when the sponge is against the body, a slight but beneficial massaging of the skin occurs, and which massaging is independently of reciprocation of the sponge by the hands. Also some of the moisture in the sponge is forced to the surface of the latter at the same time. The relatively open work structure of the web permits this action.

It is pertinent to note that the relatively open work structure of the web permits very rapid drying of the same as well as providing an extremely light weight web, and while the material of the

web is preferably relatively inelastic, it may have elasticity.

The drawing and description are not intended to be restrictive of the invention, inasmuch as they are merely illustrative thereof. The sponge itself may have various contours, but for most purposes the type illustrated is satisfactory.

Having described the invention, I claim:

1. A device of the character described comprising a flexible, elongated web of relatively open work structure providing relatively large mesh openings therein, a moisture absorbent sponge at a point intermediate the ends of said web inseparably secured thereto and projecting from opposite sides of the web, said web being adapted for manual grasping at the ends thereof for manual manipulation of the same, the portions of said sponge at opposite sides of said web being in-

tegrally secured together through the mesh openings of the latter.

2. A device of the character described comprising a flexible, elongated web of relatively open work structure providing relatively large mesh openings therein, a moisture absorbent sponge at a point intermediate the ends of said web inseparably secured thereto and projecting from opposite sides of the web, said web being adapted for manual grasping at the ends thereof for manual manipulation of the same, the said mesh openings each being of a size adapted to pass a finger of a hand therethrough for such manual grasping, there being sufficient mesh openings along each end of the web for four of the fingers of a hand.

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