Aug. 14, 1956 N. A. KENNON 2,758,327

LINT REMOVER

Filed Aug. 25, 1953

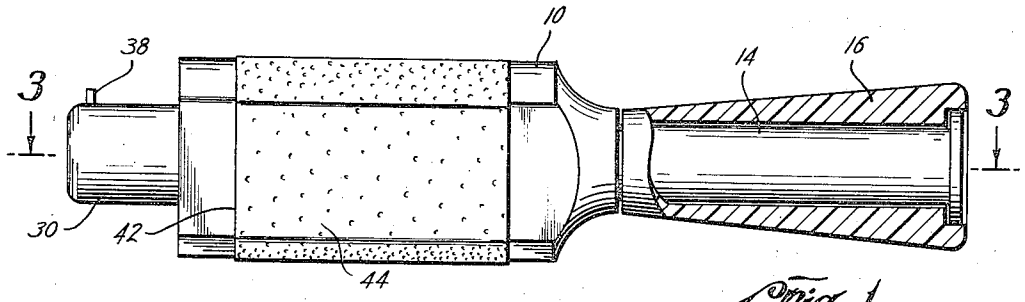


Fig. 1

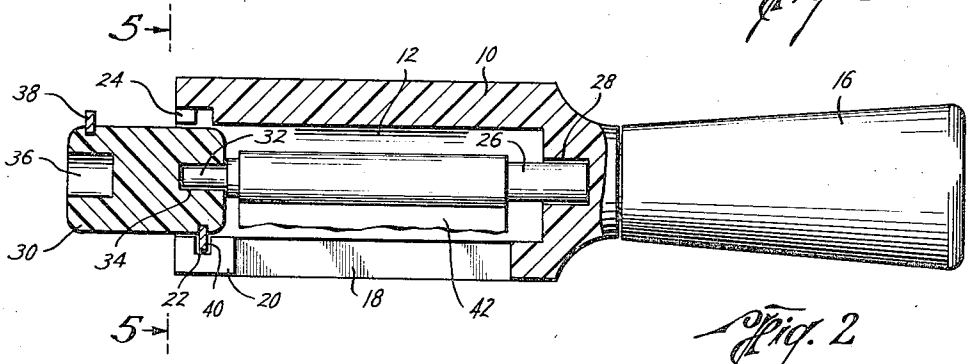


Fig. 2

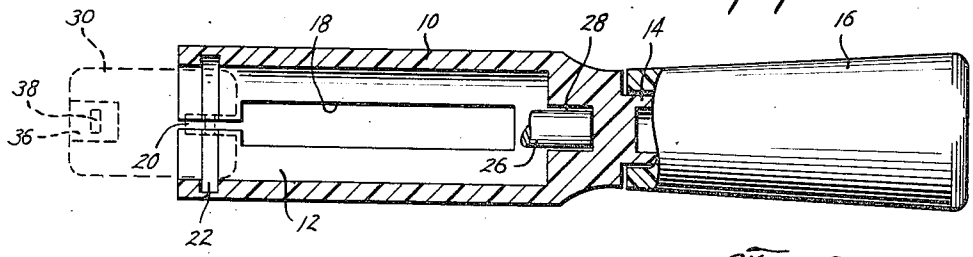


Fig. 3

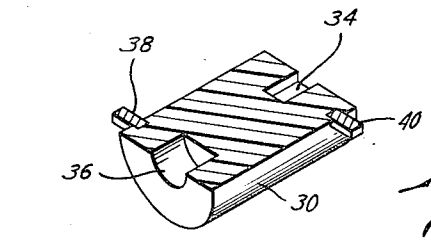


Fig. 4

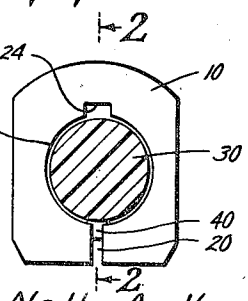


Fig. 5

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LINT REMOVER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 15—104)

This invention relates to a lint remover of the type employing as a cleaning or delinting medium sheet material having a tacky adhesive surface, and more particularly to a device for containing a supply of such material and by which the material may be held in a position to apply its tacky surface to an article to be delinted.

The invention has for an important object the provision of a holder for a delinting material having a tacky surface, whereby the material is enclosed when not in use to protect the tacky surface against deterioration, and by which portions of the material may be held with the tacky surface exposed for application to an article to be cleaned thereby.

Another object of the invention is to provide a delinting device in the form of a hollow body within which a roll of sheet-like delinting material may be rotatably carried and which is formed with a slot through which such material may be extended and wrapped about the body in position for ready application to an article to be cleaned.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a delinting device comprising a hollow body within which a roll of sheet-like delinting material is carried on a rotatable shaft, and having means cooperable with the body and shaft to permit the shaft to rotate to allow the material to be unrolled, which means is adjustable for use in rewinding the material onto the shaft.

Another object of the invention is to provide a delinting device including a body about which sheet-like delinting material is adapted to be wound in position for application to an article to be cleaned and having means by which the body is rotatably mounted to allow the body to be rolled over the article with the delinting material in contact therewith.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a delinting device of the type referred to which is of simple design and rugged construction and which can be easily and cheaply manufactured.

Other important objects and advantages of the invention will best be understood from the following detailed description, constituting a specification of the same, when considered in conjunction with the annexed drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a side elevational view, partly in cross-section, showing the invention with the delinting material in position thereon ready for application to an article to be cleaned;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view, partly in cross-section, taken along the line 2—2 of Figure 5, looking in the direction indicated by the arrows and showing the structural details and arrangement of the material supporting parts of the device when in condition for winding up the delinting material;

Figure 3 is a top plan view, partly in cross-section of the invention as illustrated in Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a longitudinal, central, cross-sectional view, in perspective, of the shaft bearing and operating element of the invention, separated from the remaining parts of the same, and

Figure 5 is a cross-sectional view, taken along the line of 5—5 of Figure 2, looking in the direction indicated by the arrows.

Referring now to the drawings in greater detail, the invention comprises a body or housing **10**, having a longitudinal, central bore **12** opening outwardly at one end thereof, the other end of the housing being extended longitudinal to form a reduced shank or stem, upon which a handle **16** of convenient shape is rotatably mounted. The body **10** may have any convenient cross-sectional shape, such as circular, or otherwise, and is provided with a longitudinal slot **18** opening into the bore, and having a reduced portion **20** which opens outwardly at one end of the body. The body also has an internal annular groove **22**, spaced somewhat inwardly of its outer end, and from which a longitudinal groove **24** extends outwardly.

Within the body there is a rotatable shaft **26**, journalled at its inner end in a counterbore **28**, opening into the bore **12**, and carried at its outer end in a combined bearing and operating element **30**, in the form of a cylindrical plug which fits into the bore **12** and extends outwardly therefrom beyond the other end of the body. The shaft **26** has at its outer end a flattened end portion **32**, which fits within a recess **34**, of corresponding shape in the plug **30**, whereby the shaft may be rotated by turning the operating element.

The combined bearing and operating element **30** also has a longitudinal central bore **36**, into which the outer end of the shaft **26** is rotatably received, when the element is arranged in the body in the reverse position to that illustrated in Figure 2, so that the shaft may then rotate freely in the body. The element **30** is provided with outwardly extending lugs or projections **38** and **40**, the projection **40** being adapted to extend into the internal groove **22** when the outer end of the shaft is extended into the recess **34** of the operating element, whereby the operating element is retained in position within the bore **12** in engagement with the shaft to rotate the shaft, and the projection **38** being similarly disposed in the groove **22**, when the outer end of the shaft **26** is extended into the bore **36** of the element **30**, to retain the element in position in the body for rotation of the shaft therein. The projections **38** and **40** are of a convenient length to permit the same to pass through the groove **24** of the body, when in registration therewith, so that the element **30** may be readily removed from the bore **12**, reversed, and again inserted in the bore into engagement with the outer end of the shaft **26** when desired.

The device, constructed in the manner described above, is adapted for use with any convenient type of delinting material, such as, sheet-like material **42** having a tacky or adhesive surface **44**. Sheet material of the type known as Scotch tape, or the like, is particularly suitable for use with the device, and is preferably wound onto the shaft with the tacky surface innermost, so that no portion of the tacky surface is exposed until it is required for use.

In making use of the invention the delinting material may be wound onto the shaft **26**, in the manner described, and the roll of material thus provided inserted in the body, by positioning the inner end of the shaft **26** in the counterbore **28**, and the outer end of the shaft in the bore **36** of the operating element **30**, so that the shaft is free to rotate in the body. In placing the roll of material in the body, a portion of the material may be unwound and inserted edgewise through the narrow portion **20** of the slot **18**, whereby the unwound portion of the material will extend through the slot **18**, when the shaft is positioned in the body. The unwound portion of the delinting material may then be wrapped about the

exterior of the body, in the manner indicated in Figure 1 of the drawings, with the tacky surface **44** of the material facing outwardly, and the material adhered to itself to retain it in position on the body, whereupon the device may then be used to remove lint from articles of clothing or the like by contacting the tacky surface with such articles.

Due to the tacky nature of the exposed surface of the delinting material, particles of dust, lint, and the like, on articles of clothing or other objects to be cleaned, readily adhere to the device and are lifted from the surface to be cleaned when the delinting material is brought into contact with the same. In this manner such articles may be efficiently cleaned without brushing, so that the dirt removed is retained on the tacky surface and is not scattered about or distributed through the air to contaminate the same or deposit on other articles. In using the device it may be moved over the surface of the article to be cleaned with a brushing motion, or if desired the body may be rolled over the surface by means of the rotatably mounted handle **16**.

When the delinting device has been used, in the manner described above, the extended portion of the delinting material may be unwrapped from the body, and by rotating the operating element **30** with the outer end of the shaft **26** in the recess **34**, the material may be rewound onto the shaft and retained in the body for subsequent reuse when desired. Used portions of the delinting material may readily be torn off the roll of the material in the body and discarded, and new portions of the material can be unrolled and wrapped about the body to provide a fresh tacky surface for further cleaning operations.

It will thus be seen that the invention, as described above, provides a delinting device of simple design, by which a supply of delinting material may be readily carried about in condition for immediate use whenever required.

The invention has been disclosed herein in connection a certain specific embodiment of the same, but it will be understood that this is intended by way of illustration only, and that numerous changes can be made in the construction and arrangement of the various parts without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus clearly shown and described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A device of the character described comprising an elongated hollow body having an end opening and an elongated slot opening into the interior of the body and leading to the exterior thereof, a shaft in the body rotatably engageable at one end with the body, bearing means having one end rotatably positioned in said end opening and being reversible to engage its other end rotatably in said opening, said other end of said bearing means and the other end of said shaft having complemental parts engageable with each other when said other end of said bearing means is engaged in said end opening for rotating the shaft with said bearing means, sheet material wound on said shaft and having a tacky surface and adapted to be extended through said slot and wound about the exterior of the body with said tacky surface outermost.

2. A device of the character described comprising an elongated hollow body having an end opening and an elongated slot opening into the interior of the body and leading to the exterior thereof, a shaft in the body rotatably engageable at one end with the body, bearing means having one end rotatably positioned in said end opening and being reversible to engage its other end rotatably in said end opening, said other end of said bearing means and said other end of the shaft having complemental parts engageable with each other when said other end of said bearing means is engaged in said end opening for rotating the shaft with said bearing means, interengageable means on the bearing means and body for releasably retaining either end of the bearing means in said opening, sheet material wound on said shaft and having a tacky surface and adapted to be extended through said slot and wound about the exterior of the body with said tacky surface outermost.

3. A device of the character described comprising an elongated hollow body having an end opening and an elongated slot opening in the interior of the body and leading to the exterior thereof, a shaft in the body rotatably engageable at one end with the body, bearing means having one end in said end opening and being reversible to engage its other end rotatably in said end opening, said other end of said bearing means and said other end of the shaft having complemental parts engageable with each other when said other end of said bearing means is engaged in said end opening for rotating the shaft with said bearing means, said body having an internal annular groove within said end opening, and means on the end portions of said bearing means positioned to enter said groove upon insertion of said bearing means in said end opening and engageable with the body in said groove to retain said bearing means in said end opening.

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