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C. F. JENSEN

2,069,449

HAND PROTECTOR

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**FIG. 1**

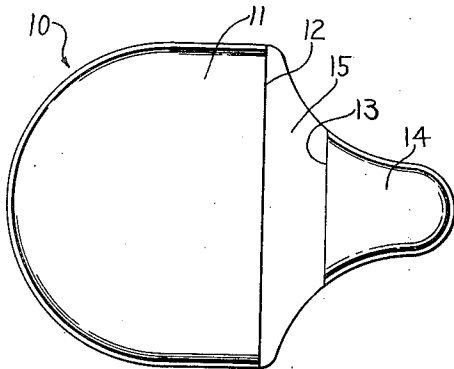
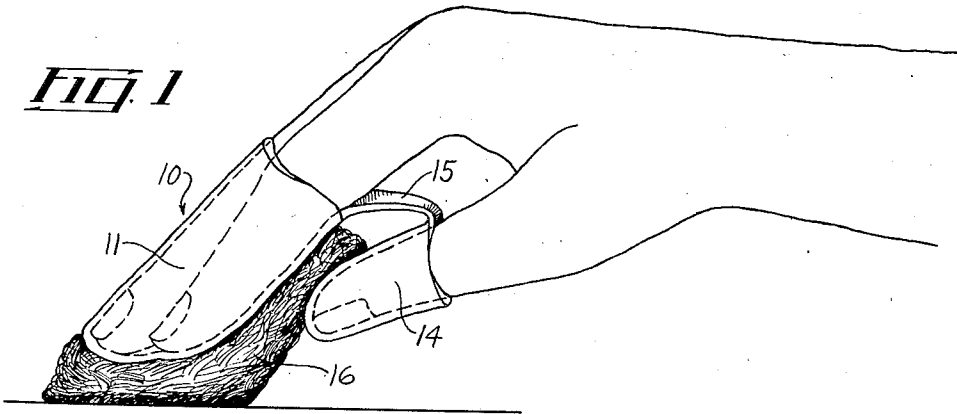


**FIG. 2**

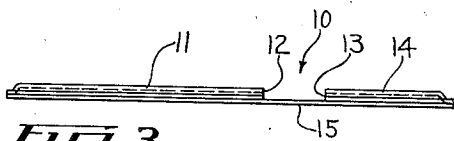


**FIG. 3**

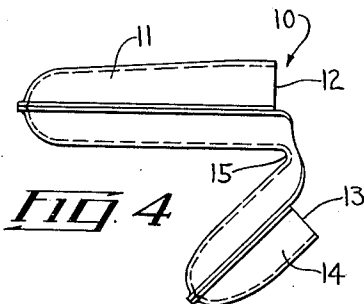


**FIG. 4**

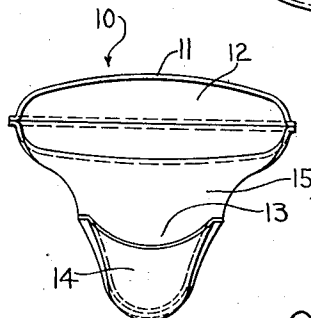


**FIG. 5**

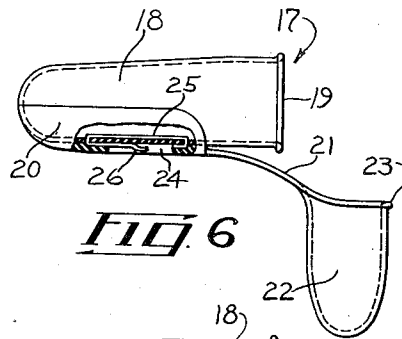


**FIG. 6**

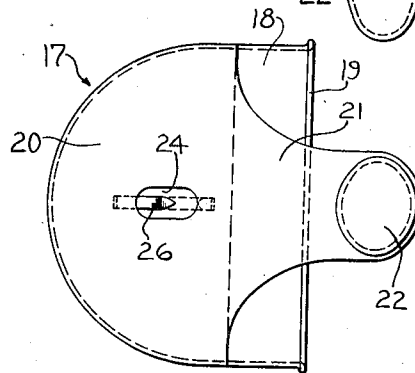


**FIG. 7**

INVENTOR.  
CARL F. JENSEN.  
BY *John P. Mahan*  
ATTORNEY.

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## HAND PROTECTOR

Carl F. Jensen, Bridgeport, Conn.

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8 Claims. (Cl. 2—20)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in hand protectors and method of making same and has particular relation to a simple and inexpensive means for covering and protecting the thumb and fingers while using steel wool or the like whereby particles of such material are prevented from penetrating the skin.

The means of the invention is also useful to prevent dirt and grease entering under the finger nails of a user when washing or scouring cooking utensils and the like.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein satisfactory embodiments of the invention are shown. However, it will be understood that the invention is not limited to the details disclosed but includes all such variations and modifications as fall within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is an elevational view showing my improved protector in use;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view showing the protector in a flat or normal condition;

Fig. 3 is an edge view looking from the lower side of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a view showing the device in somewhat the condition of Fig. 1 but free of the hand of an operator;

Fig. 5 is a view looking from the right in Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is an edge view of a modification, a portion being broken away to show a detail; and

Fig. 7 is a bottom plan view of the device of Fig. 6.

Referring in detail to the drawing and at first particularly to Figs. 1 through 5, my improved protector generally designated 10 is shown as formed from thin sheet rubber and comprises a normally flat pouch-like portion 11 of such size as to more or less snugly receive the end portions of the four fingers of one hand whereby to encase such portions of the fingers somewhat after the fashion of a mitten. This pouch portion being normally flat as shown best in Fig. 3 must be stretched somewhat to receive the fingers as indicated. In opposed relation to the open end 12 of the pouch 11 is the open end 13 of a cot 14. The cot and pouch are joined by a flexible connecting portion or web 15 which, as shown, is as broad as the open end of the pouch and is gradually tapered or narrowed down to the width of the cot.

In the manufacture of this protector 10 uncured sheet rubber is provided, to form a pair of layers and such layers may comprise a strip or sheet in one piece for one layer while the other layer is composed of a pair of strips of which

one is at least of a width equal to the depth of the pouch 11 while the other is of a width equal to the depth of the cot 14. If desired, this second layer instead of comprising separate strips as mentioned may be formed by folding over the edges of the sheet forming the first layer or one portion of said second layer may be in the form of a second strip while the other portion thereof results from doubling over the longitudinal edge of the first sheet or strip.

When the two layers are provided as indicated it will be clear that one layer will include a pair of spaced opposing edges. Now, the uncured stock is cut to provide a protector of the desired shape, such as the shape shown best in Fig. 2, and the cutting operation tends to cause the adjacent or adjoining cut edges of the upper and lower layers to adhere or weld to one another. Next, the cut article is cured and the curing results in the cut edges being sealed or locked together. This, of course, leaves the spaced opposed edges of the second layer of stock uncut and results in the formation of the opposed open ends 12 and 13 of the pouch 11 and cot 14 respectively.

When the holder 10 is to be used the four fingers of the user are inserted into the pouch portion 11 and the thumb of the same hand is inserted into the cot 14. The free end portions of the finger and thumb are thus completely enclosed in a rather tight fitting thin flexible sheet rubber casing and if scouring is to be done by the use of steel wool or the like, a pad of which is indicated at 16 in Fig. 1, small splinters or particles of the steel wool will not cut or scratch or become embedded in the fingers of the user. Connecting portion or web 15 between the pouch portion 11 and the cot 14 offers protection to the inner surfaces of the exposed portions of the fingers and thumb and also affords protection to the palm of the hand of the user.

While the device is illustrated as used when handling a pad or wad of steel wool it will be apparent that the protector is useful for handling other articles. The device may be used in the kitchen for general cleaning or when washing dishes and particularly when scouring pans and will serve to prevent dirt and grease entering under the finger nails. Further, the device may be used in shops and particularly by wood finishers or cabinet makers when employing steel wool or similar material or sand paper or the like for finishing a surface.

Attention is directed to the fact that the cot 14 has its entrance 13 flaring outwardly to each side of the longitudinal center line of the cot. Such center line of the cot aligns with a center line drawn across the flat face of the pouch portion of the holder and this construction makes the holder equally applicable to either hand of a

user. That is, the finger and cot portions are disposed equally at opposite sides of a common longitudinal center line drawn across the face of the relatively flat finger portion and the cot and thus the holder may be worn on either hand of a user without stretching of the connecting portion (15 or 21).

Referring now to Figs. 6 and 7 the improved holder of such figures is generally designated 17 and comprises a pouch-like portion 18 which is preferably of relatively stiff rubber formed either by dipping or moulding and having a strengthening or re-enforcing bead 19 about its open end. Secured to one side of the pouch 18 and extending up somewhat about the edges thereof is a sheet 20 which preferably is of rubber but which may be of leather or the like. This sheet 20 is cemented or otherwise secured to the pouch 18 and the sheet includes an extension 21 projecting beyond the open end of the pouch and at its free end carrying a cot 22 having its open end arranged in opposed relation to the open end of the pouch.

The sheet 20 and cot 22 may be integral and may be formed of rubber by moulding or dipping as desired and the cot may be provided with a strengthening or re-enforcing bead 23 about its open end and corresponding with the bead 19 of the pouch. At the under-side of the pouch 18 the sheet 20 is provided with an opening or recess 24 and a metal clip 25 is passed through the under wall of the pouch and has a hook portion 26 located in said cut-out or recess 24. This hook portion 26 is adapted to have a suitable working instrumentality attached to it as for example a pad or wad of steel wool may have the hook 26 hooked into it so as to attach it to the protector 17 to form a unit therewith. Since the hook is located within the recess 24 it will not be in the way when the protector is being used with a means other than a pad of steel wool or the like.

The extension 21 of sheet 20 is not secured to the pouch portion 18 of the holder. Further the sheet itself is secured to said pouch portion at the closed or finger tip portion thereof or in spaced relation to the open end thereof. Thus protector 17 is so constructed that the thumb part may be easily bent back over the finger receiving part to hold an abrasive pad.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided a simple and efficient means to protect the hand of a user against particles of steel wool and against grease or dirt entering under the nails. The device is of inexpensive construction and may be cheaply manufactured and when this device is used a pad or the like of steel wool may be completely used up since its position may readily be changed in the hand. At the present time pads of steel or bronze wool are attached to wooden blocks and the like and with such arrangements it is not possible to turn the pad about. Also, before the pad is completely worn out it must be discarded when such blocks are used, and of course the block or holders are thrown away with the used pads. With the present arrangement the protector is not thrown away but may be used with any desired number of pads of wool and for other purposes. Further, the present means has a tight or elastic fit whereby it will not slip off the hand of a user.

Having thus set forth the nature of my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a hand protector, a pouch portion, a sheet of material secured against one side of said

pouch and having an extension projecting beyond the open end thereof, a thumb cot on said extension, and a metal clip at the sheet side of said pouch and to which a pad of abrasive may be secured.

2. In a hand protector, a pouch portion, a sheet of material secured against one side of said pouch, and a metal clip at the sheet side of said pouch and to which a pad of abrasive may be secured.

3. In a hand protector, a pouch portion, a sheet of material secured against one side of said pouch and having an extension projecting beyond the open end thereof, a thumb cot on the end of said extension and having its open end facing the open end of the pouch, said sheet having a recess therein, and a metal clip secured to said pouch and having a portion passing through a wall thereof and located in said recess to have a pad of abrasive secured thereto.

4. In a hand protector, a relatively flat finger portion to receive the tip portions of the fingers of a hand, a cot portion to receive the end portion of the thumb of the same hand, said portions having their entrances arranged in opposing relation, a flexible means connecting said finger and cot portions, said cot portion having its entrance flaring outwardly to each side of its center line, and said cot portion arranged to have its center line align with a center line drawn across a flat face of the finger portion whereby the protector is equally applicable to each hand of a user.

5. In a hand protector, a relatively flat finger portion to receive the fingers of a hand, a cot portion to receive the thumb of the same hand, said portions formed of rubber, a flexible rubber portion to extend across the palm of the hand and connecting said finger and cot portions whereby they may be moved relatively and said finger and cot portions being disposed equally at opposite sides of a common longitudinal center line drawn across the face of said relatively flat finger portion and the cot whereby the device may be used on either hand with said connecting portion extending across the palm of the hand and whereby with the protector on either hand the thumb cot may be brought against the center of a pad of abrasive or the middle fingers of the hand wearing the device without stretching of the said connecting portion.

6. In a hand protector, a finger receiving means having a thickened portion, said thickened portion having a recess therein, and means in said recess to which a pad of abrasive may be secured.

7. In a hand protector, a flexible finger receiving means, a metal clip at the palm side of said means and including a resilient penetrating part to penetrate and clamp an abrasive pad against the finger tip receiving portion of said means whereby with his finger tips a party using the means may press a secured pad against a piece of work.

8. In a hand protector, a means open at its inner end to receive the fingers of a hand, a thumb cot to receive the thumb of the same hand, a flexible means for operatively attaching said thumb cot to said means, and said flexible means having one end portion secured to said cot and having its other end portion fixed to said means at the palm side thereof in spaced relation to its open end.

CARL F. JENSEN.