E. R. CROOKER.

CLOTHES POUNDER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 1, 1912.

1,039,701.

Patented Oct. 1, 1912.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

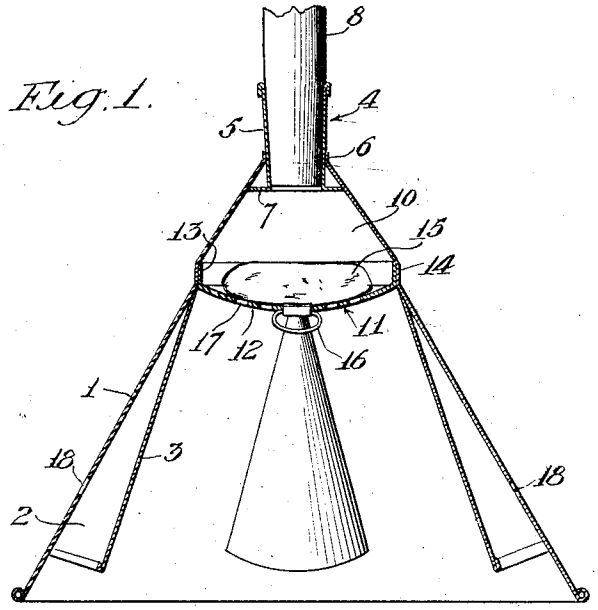
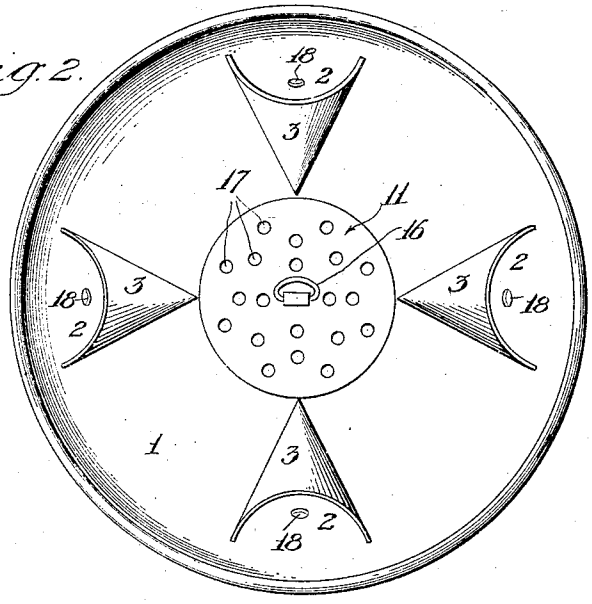


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:-

Louis W. Gratz

P. H. Shelton.

Inventor

Edwin R. Crooker

by Thomson & Graham

his attorneys.

E. R. CROOKER.

CLOTHES POUNDER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 1, 1912.

1,039,701.

Patented Oct. 1, 1912.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

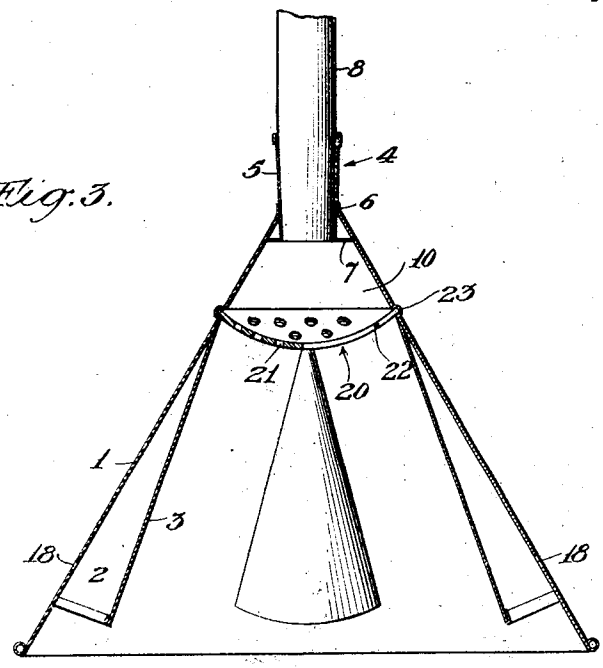


Fig. 5.

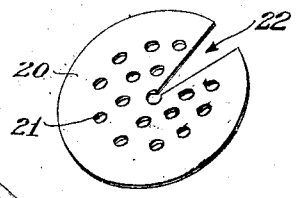
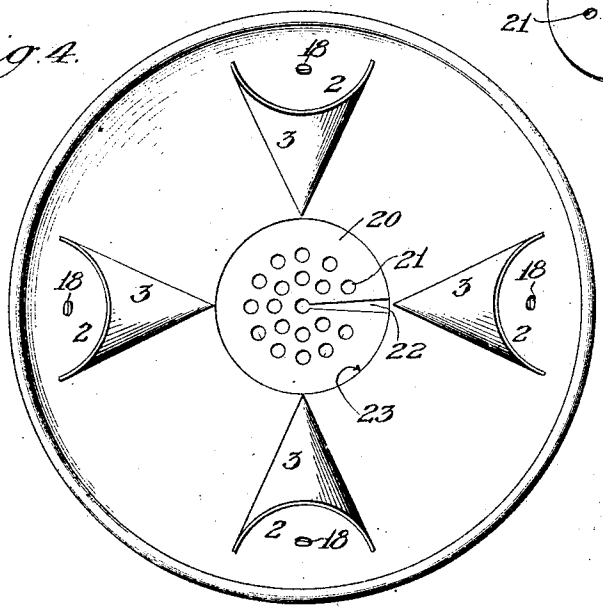


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:-
Louis W. Gratz
C. H. Shelton

Inventor
Edwin R. Crooker
by Howson & Graham
his Attorneys.

E. R. CROOKER.

CLOTHES POUNDER.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 1, 1912.

1,039,701.

Patented Oct. 1, 1912.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 6.

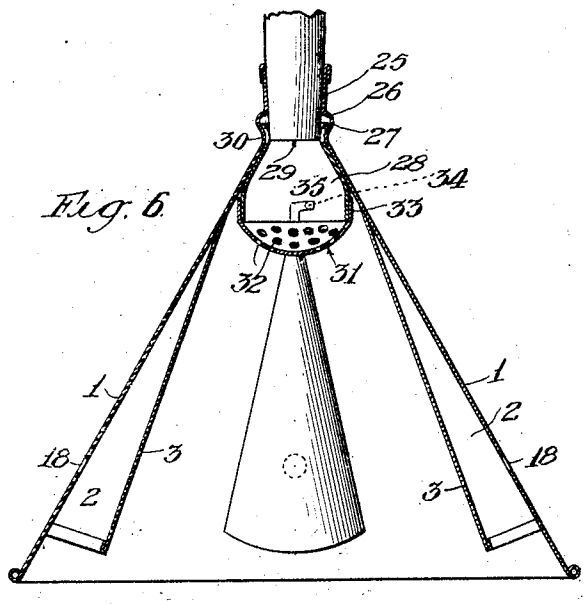


Fig. 7.

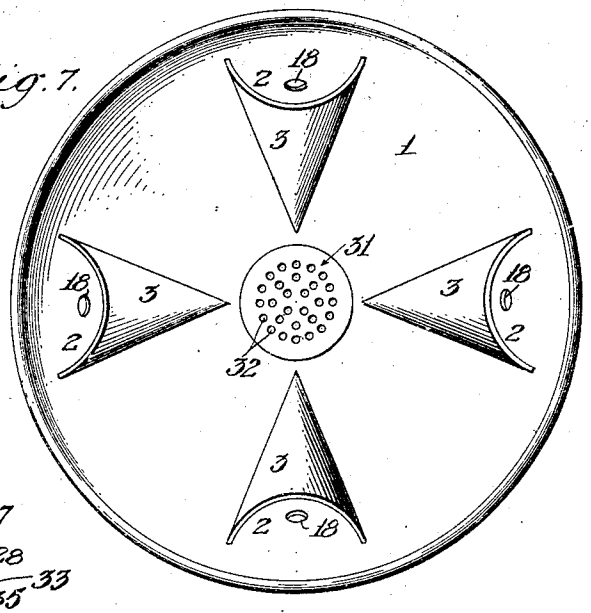
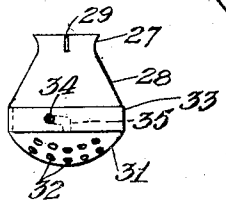


Fig. 8.



Witnesses:-
Louis W. Gratz.
P. H. Shelton.

Inventor
Edwyn R. Crooker
by Thomas & Watson
his Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN R. CROOKER, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

CLOTHES-POUNDER.

1,039,701. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 1, 1912.

Application filed June 1, 1912. Serial No. 701,095.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN R. CROOKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Pounder, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in clothes-pounders of the manually operated type, and one of the main objects of my invention is to improve the construction of clothes-pounders by making the same of simple and economical construction.

Another object of my invention is to construct a clothes-pounder of the character described with a simple form of soap receptacle so arranged as not to obstruct the interior of the clothes-pounder, thereby producing a clothes-pounder of maximum capacity for lifting water therein.

Another object of my invention is to construct a clothes-pounder of the character described with a soap receptacle so arranged that the clothes-pounders may be nested for the purpose of shipping the same thereby reducing the bulk of the package containing the pounders.

Another object of my invention is to produce a clothes-pounder of the character described with a soap receptacle so arranged that the soap therein may be mixed with the water at the will of the operator.

Another object of my invention is to produce a clothes-pounder in which the handle socket is so constructed that the handle may be readily removed therefrom when so desired.

Referring to the drawings, which are for illustrative purposes only: Figure 1 is a vertical, sectional view of a clothes-pounder embodying the preferred form of my invention. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is a vertical, sectional view of a modified form of my invention. Fig. 4 is an inverted plan view of the form shown in Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the cap of the soap receptacle shown in Figs. 3 and 4. Fig. 6 is a vertical, sectional view of another modified form of my invention. Fig. 7 is an inverted plan view of the form shown in Fig. 6. Fig. 8 is a side elevation of the soap receptacle used in the form of clothes-pounder shown in Figs. 6 and 7.

The clothes-pounder shown in Figs. 1 and 2 comprises an approximately conical body 1 equipped on its interior face with a plurality of vertically disposed air chambers 2 formed by semi-conical sheet metal members 3 secured at the side edges thereof to the inner face of the conical body 1, which members 3 extend downwardly from the upper portion of the body 1 and terminate short of the lower edge of the same, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

The clothes-pounder is provided with a handle socket 4 consisting of a short tube 5 which extends through the top or apex 6 of the conical body 1, the lower edge 7 of the tube 5 being flared outwardly and extending into engagement with the inner wall of the conical body 1, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. The tube 5 is tapered, as indicated, the largest diameter of the tube being at the upper end thereof, so that the operating handle 8 may be readily inserted in the socket 4. The construction of the socket 5, described above as being of larger diameter at the top, permits the handle 8 to be readily removed therefrom after the handle 8 has become wet and swollen through the frequent immersions of the same in the water during the washing operation.

The soap receptacle 10 is formed partly by a portion of the walls of the conical body 1 and a cap 11. The cap 11 is provided with a rounded body portion 12 terminating in a circular flange 13, which circular flange is adapted to extend into and engage a circular groove or seat 14 formed in the walls of the body 1 by pressing the same outwardly, as indicated in Fig. 1. The engagement of the circular flange 13 of the cap 11 and the circular seat 14 of the body 1 is such that the cap 11 will readily hold a cake of soap thereon, indicated at 15, during the operation of washing the clothes. The cap 11 is provided with a ring 16 mounted on the under side thereof, so that the cap may be readily removed from the seat when it is so desired. The cap 11 is provided with a series of perforations, indicated at 17, so that water may pass freely therethrough, coming into contact with the soap within the receptacle and thereby forming suds for the washing operation. The air chambers 2 are provided with openings 18 formed in the conical walls of the body 1, so that during the upward stroke of the pounder any vacuum formed by the conical body 1 is broken as soon as the openings 18 are higher than the surface of the water.

It is understood that each form of clothes pounder herein shown and described is used in the usual manner by raising and lowering the same in water in which the clothes have been placed, the up stroke of the clothes-pounder creating a suction within the pounder and the down stroke of the pounder forcing air and water through the clothes.

In the form shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, the body 1 of the pounder, the air chambers 2, and the handle socket 4 are all of the same form as that shown and described in Figs. 1 and 2. The soap cup in the form shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, consists of a dished plate 20 provided with a series of perforations 21 and split inwardly from the outer edge thereof to the center, as indicated at 22. The cup 20 is preferably formed of metal having some elasticity so that the same may be pressed into a circular groove 23 formed in the wall of the body 1 adjacent the upper end thereof, and when so placed the edge of the cup engages the groove or seat 23 so that the same is held securely therein until such time as it is desired to remove the same from the seat 23. In both the form shown in Figs. 1 and 2 and the form shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, the soap receptacle consists of a portion of the conical walls of the body 1 and a cap, which cap is adapted to engage the seat or groove formed in the walls of the body 1.

In the form shown in Figs. 6, 7 and 8, the conical body 1 is provided with a handle socket 25 formed as an extension from the apex of the body 1, which socket 25 is formed with a circular groove or seat 26 adapted to be engaged by the outwardly flared upper edge of the neck 27 of a soap receptacle 28, the neck 27 of the receptacle being slotted, as indicated at 29, to permit the neck to be compressed to pass through the lower portion 30 of the handle socket and to permit it to expand outwardly into engagement with the seat 26 after being passed through the portion 30 of the handle socket. The cap 31 of the soap receptacle in this form is provided with a series of perforations 32 in the central portion thereof, the cap 31 terminating in a flange 33, which flange 33 is provided with a lug 34 formed thereon which extends into a bayonet slot 35 formed in the body portion of the soap receptacle 28 so that the cap may be readily removed from the soap receptacle.

In the form shown in Figs. 6, 7 and 8, above described, the air chambers 2 are the same form of construction as those heretofore described in connection with Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive.

In all of the forms shown, the soap receptacle is placed within the conical body 1 adjacent to the apex thereof so that the amount of soap mixed with the water may be controlled by the length of stroke of the pounder, as with a long stroke more water enters the soap receptacle and produces more suds than when the pounder is not pressed as deeply into the water. This construction also permits a free unobstructed chamber within the conical body, thereby giving a greater lifting capacity to the conical shaped member, and also produces a construction ideal for shipping quantities of pounders, at which time, if desired, the caps of the soap receptacles may be removed and the conical body members 1 closely nested to form a compact package, or the caps of the soap receptacles may be left on the respective soap receptacles, in which case the pounders may be nested, but not as compactly as when the caps have been removed. In either case, however, the saving in bulk is great over that of the forms of clothes-pounders where the handle socket extends downwardly through the central member and is provided with a soap receptacle adjacent to the open end of the conical body member 1.

In the ordinary washing operation, after the clothes have been washed by means of operating a pounder therein, the clothes are ordinarily, as is well known, removed from the suds and dirty water and placed in rinsing water. With the ordinary form of washer in which the soap receptacle is placed adjacent to the lower or open end of the pounder, it is necessary to remove the soap from the soap receptacle before using the pounder upon the clothes in the rinsing water. With a pounder constructed as above described in my application, it is not necessary to remove the soap from the soap receptacle when it is desired to use the pounder for assisting in the rinsing operation, but the stroke of the pounder is simply regulated, that is shortened, so that the water does not reach the soap receptacle and mix with the soap therein, thereby saving a material amount of time and labor in the washing operation. With the ordinary form of clothes pounder with the soap receptacle adjacent the lower end thereof, after the soap has been removed from the soap receptacle, so that the pounder may be used in the rinsing operation, it is then necessary to open the soap receptacle and replace the soap in the same before further washing may be done.

What I claim is:—

1. A clothes-pounder comprising an approximately conical body, a handle socket on the apex end of said body, and a soap receptacle within said body at the apex thereof.

2. A clothes-pounder comprising an approximately conical body, a handle socket at the apex end of said body, said body having

a circular seat formed therein, and a cap adapted to engage in said seat to form a soap receptacle.

3. A clothes-pounder comprising an approximately conical body, a handle socket at the apex end of said body, said body having a circular seat formed therein adjacent the apex end thereof, a cap having a plurality of perforations therein, and a circular flange on said cap adapted to engage in the circular seat in said conical body.

4. A clothes-pounder comprising an approximately conical body, a handle socket secured to the apex of said body, said socket extending upwardly and outwardly therefrom, a plurality of semi-conical sheet members secured to the inner side of said conical body to form a series of vertically disposed air chambers, said conical body having a series of perforations each opening into one of said air chambers and a circular seat formed therein above said air chambers, and a perforated cap adapted to engage said seat to form a soap receptacle within said conical body adjacent the apex thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand at Los Angeles, California, this 25th day of May, 1912.

EDWIN R. CROOKER.

In presence of—
FRANK L. A. GRAHAM,
P. H. SHELTON.