

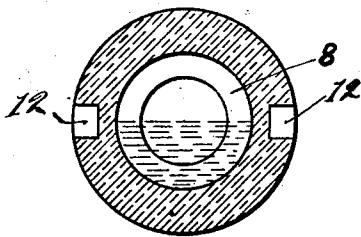
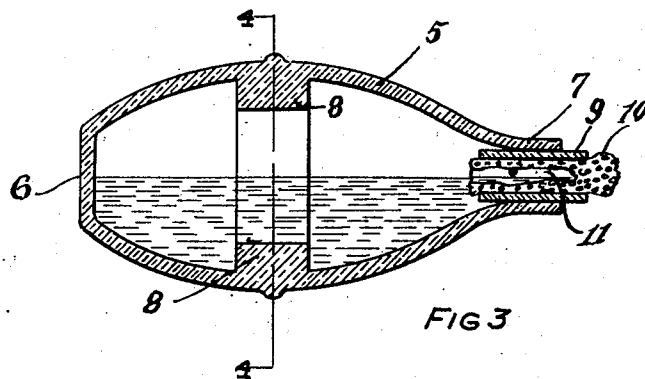
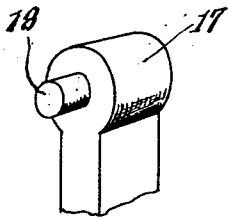
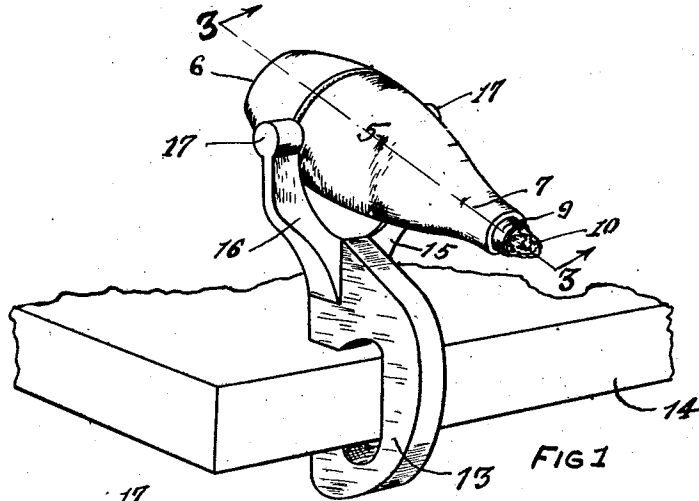
March 10, 1925.

1,529,192

H. KOTZEN

MOISTENER

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Inventor

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By *F. E. Shannon*

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HYMAN KOTZEN, OF AKRON, OHIO.

MOISTENER.

Application filed July 15, 1922. Serial No. 575,315.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HYMAN KOTZEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Akron, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Moisteners, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in moisteners and has for its primary object the provision of a strong, durable device adapted to be conveniently used in moistening the gummed surface of envelopes, labels, postage stamps and the like.

A particular object of the invention is to provide a compressible liquid container in the form of a bulb of relatively stiff elastic material, and having a single opening with an absorbent element secured therein and protruding therefrom so that the contents of the bulb may be automatically fed there- to and thereby provide a moistener which may be filled by compressing the bulb, placing the absorbing element in a liquid and permitting the container to expand.

Another object is to provide a moistener which may be quickly and conveniently attached to a table, desk or other structure without the use of screws or other fastening means.

An additional object is to provide a moistener and a holding device therefor whereby the moistener may be placed at any convenient angle and may be quickly detached and used without the holder, if desired.

The above and additional objects are accomplished by the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein I have shown a preferred embodiment of the invention, it being understood that the invention is capable of various adaptations and that changes and modifications may be made or substitutions resorted to which come within the scope of the claims hereunto appended.

In the drawings in which similar numerals of reference have been employed to designate like parts as the same appear in any of the several views and in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a moistener constructed in accordance with this invention and showing a portion of a table with the moistener operatively secured thereto.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary, perspective

view of one of the arms of a holder employed in carrying out this invention.

Figure 3 is a central, longitudinal, sectional view of a container or bulb employed in carrying out this invention.

Figure 4 is a transverse, sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Proceeding now to a detailed description of the invention with reference to the accompanying drawing, the numeral 5 denotes an oblong bulb which is composed of relatively stiff elastic rubber or similar material. The bulb is provided with a flat closed end or base 6 on which the bulb may be supported in an upright position, when detached from the holder hereinafter described. The bulb 5 terminates at the executive end thereof in a substantial cylindrical nozzle 7. The numeral 8 denotes a centrally positioned inwardly projecting annular flange which is formed on the inner face of the bulb with its axis disposed longitudinally thereof.

The numeral 9 denotes a tube preferably composed of rubber or other flexible material which is adapted to snugly fit within the nozzle end of the bulb 5. The numeral 10 denotes an absorbent element which in the adaptation of the invention shown is composed of rubber sponge. The sponge is substantially cylindrical and is snugly fitted within the tube 9 so as to project from the forward end thereof to provide a brush adapted to contact with the surface to be moistened. The sponge 10 is provided with a co-axially arranged cavity 11 which projects therein from the inner end thereof to a point adjacent the outer end thereof. The bulb 5 is further provided on diametrically opposite sides with cylindrical sockets 12 which are arranged in co-axial alinement and project therein from the outer surface thereof at points approximately central of the rib 8 for a purpose presently to appear.

The invention also includes the provision of a mounting device which is composed of one piece of relatively stiff elastic rubber or similar material and comprises a jaw 13 which may be spread apart and clamped on a table top 14 or other similar structure. The numerals 15 and 16 are used to denote arms which are integral with the jaws 13 and project upwardly therefrom to form a fork adapted to receive the bulb 5 as hereinafter set forth. Each arm 15 and 16 terminates at the upper end thereof in a cylin-

drical portion 17 and each portion 17 is provided with an inwardly projecting cylindrical lug 18 adapted to be received in one of the sockets 12 on the bulb 5.

5 In use, the bulb 5 is collapsed and the nozzle end 7 is placed in water. The bulb is then permitted to expand and is filled with water entering through the sponge 10. The jaws 13 are then spread apart and
10 forced over the edge of the table or desk top 14 as shown in Figure 1. To secure the bulb to the holder, the arms 15 and 16 are spread apart and the bulb 5 is positioned therebetween with the lugs 18 received in
15 the socket 12.

It will thus be seen that the bulb is pivotally mounted between the arms 15 and 16 and may be swung on a horizontal axis to any desired position and that, when not in
20 use, the bulb may be swung to an upright position.

It will be noted that the bulb 5 may be quickly detached from the arms 15 and 16 and used without the holder if desired. The
25 flange 8 stiffens the bulb so that a structure is formed which will not be unintentionally compressed when placed on a desk or work table and the said flange further reinforces the central portion of the bulb, making it
30 relatively rigid and consequently provides a structure which may be securely held between the arms 15 and 16.

It will be noted that the tube 9 is held in place by the elasticity of the nozzle 7 and if
35 desired, the tube 9 may be removed from the nozzle and the bulb filled in the usual way. The sponge is also frictionally held in the tube 9 and may be moved longitudinally thereof when worn away or to adapt
40 the device to a particular kind of work.

It will thus be seen that I have provided a structure which may be formed entirely of rubber and which in use will provide
45 efficient means whereby stamps, envelopes and other gummed articles may be conveniently moistened.

Having thus illustrated my invention and

described the same in detail, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a moistener of the class described, a relatively stiff, flexible bulb, an integrally formed nozzle thereon, a flexible tube detachably secured in said nozzle and an absorbent element fitted in said tube and protruding outwardly therefrom, said bulb provided with a centrally positioned inwardly projecting annular flange which is arranged on the inner face thereof with its axis running longitudinally of the bulb.

2. In a moistener of the class described, a bulb of relatively stiff elastic material, an integrally formed elongated nozzle thereon and an absorbent element fitted in said nozzle and protruding therefrom, said bulb provided on the inner face thereof with an inwardly projecting annular flange arranged with its axis running longitudinally of the bulb.

3. In a moistener of the class described, in combination a bulb of relatively stiff elastic material, a nozzle on said bulb, an absorbent element fitted on said nozzle and a holder for said bulb, said holder formed of one piece of relatively stiff elastic material and comprising jaws, a fork projecting upwardly from said jaws and means to pivotally secure said bulb in said fork.

4. In a moistener of the class described, in combination, a bulb having a nozzle, an absorbent element fitted in said nozzle and protruding therefrom, sockets in the outer wall of said bulb and an integrally formed holding device for said bulb, said holding device comprising jaws, a pair of arms projecting upwardly therefrom in the form of a fork, each arm provided adjacent the upper end thereof with an inwardly projecting lug adapted to fit in one of said sockets to pivotally secure said bulb in said fork.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

HYMAN KOTZEN.