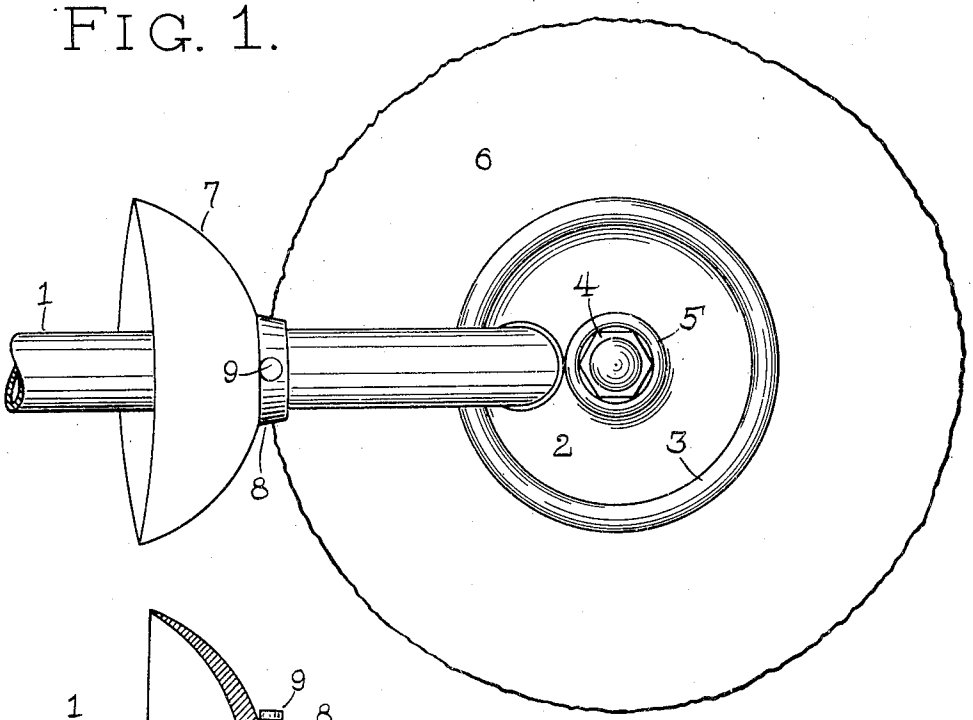
June 4, 1929. J. G. DRAGELIN 1,715,907

AUTOMOBILE WASHER

Filed May 10, 1928

FIG. 1.



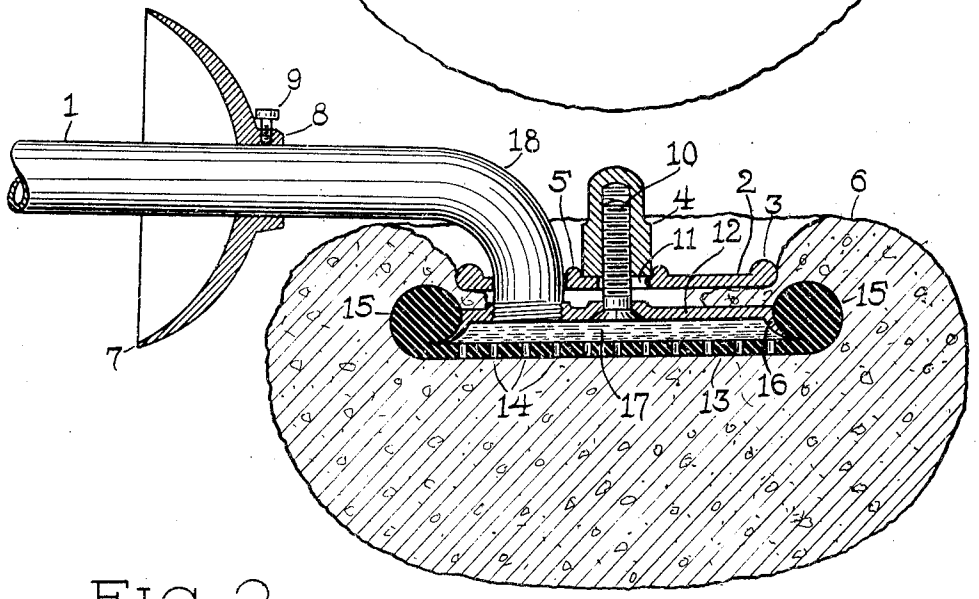


FIG. 2.

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By His Attorney Frank Carlson

Patented June 4, 1929. 1,715,907

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOEL G. DRAGELIN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

AUTOMOBILE WASHER.

Application filed May 10, 1928. Serial No. 276,616.

This invention relates to fountain sponges for washing automobiles, store windows and other bodies having a high finish.

The main object of my invention is to provide a sponge with such related structure as to facilitate washing with the same without pause and without subjecting the hands to immersion or wetting, and which sponge structure may be constantly supplied with a stream of water from a hose or the like.

Other objects, as well as the advantages attained by my invention will appear hereinafter as the specification proceeds.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a top view of a fountain sponge made according to my invention and embodying the features of the same.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same for revealing the interior construction and relations of the parts.

In both the views the same reference numerals indicate the same parts.

In the practice of my invention a pipe 1 is bent at one end at 18 and threaded into a plate 12 about whose flaring edge 16 a heavy rib 15 of a resilient strainer 13 is retained by the contractile force of said rib. The pipe 1 feeds water directly into the resulting chamber 17, whence the water tends to pass out through a plurality of apertures as indicated at 14.

However, the rounded edge or rib 15 of the strainer 13, which may be of rubber serves another purpose together with the plate 12. A somewhat extensive sponge 6, preferably of rubber is disposed beneath strainer 13, and its peripheral edges drawn over edge 15 and extended in upon plate 12, upon which the sponge edges are conveniently clamped by means of a clamping plate 2. A screw 10 is secured in the water distributing plate 12 and extends through the aperture 11 in clamp plate 2 and the latter is drawn and held down by a retaining nut 4 threaded on the screw and centered within a rib 5 on the plate, which also has a peripheral stiffening rib 3 thereon. The aperture 11 is somewhat enlarged for clearing the screw when lifting the clamp plate up along curve 18 of the pipe in order to permit changing sponges.

If the pipe is connected to a hose and water is turned on, the latter will pass from the pipe into chamber 17, as mentioned, thence out through apertures 14 in the strainer, and then through the sponge 6 to any object upon which the sponge is used.

The pipe forms a convenient handle for this purpose, but when the sponge is raised into a high position, water will tend to drip along and follow the outside of the pipe and tend to wet the hands. In order to eliminate this trouble a drip shield 7 is provided upon the pipe, a collar 8 upon the shield having a set screw 9 for holding the shield in any position along the pipe, so that water from the sponge will run along the pipe only to the shield, which will readily shed the same.

Thus the sponge may be used to dislodge dust and dirt, while the constant flow of water from the sponge will flush the dirt away, and yet the hands of the operator may remain perfectly dry.

Having now described my invention, I claim:—

1. A fountain sponge including a feed pipe, a distributing plate attached to one end of said pipe, a detachable independent strainer supported upon said plate, a sponge overlying said strainer and enveloping the same, and means to retain said sponge in position over said strainer.

2. A fountain sponge including a feed pipe terminating in a distributing plate, a resilient strainer covering one face of said plate and enveloping the peripheral edge thereof in constricted manner for retaining said strainer in position, a sponge covering said strainer and enveloping the same so that the edges of said sponge envelope said constricted portion of the strainer, and means retained by said plate for clamping the edges of said sponge thereon.

3. A fountain sponge including a feed pipe having a water shield near the end thereof and a distributing plate on said extremity, a flared edge on said plate, a resilient strainer for covering said plate having a thickened edge constricted about said flared plate edge to retain said strainer thereon, a clamping plate adjustably attached in spaced manner to the other side of said plate, and a porous body secured between the edges of said plates in such manner as to completely envelope said strainer.

4. A fountain sponge including a feed pipe terminating in a concave distributing plate, a strainer removably attached to said plate to

enclose the concave side thereof, a porous body overlying the strainer and enveloping the peripheral edges of both the strainer and the distributing plate so as to extend to the rear side of said plate, a clamping plate arranged over said rear side for clamping the edges of said porous body thereto, and a retaining screw upon one of said plates extending through the other and provided beyond the latter with an adjusting and retaining nut.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, this 9th day of May, 1928.

JOEL G. DRAGELIN.