Patented Dec. 19, 1933

1,940,026

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,940,026

SHAVING COMPOSITION

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No Drawing. Application January 4, 1930
Serial No. 418,656

3 Claims. (Cl. 87—5)

This invention relates to compositions, either in the form of a solid or a cream, which are adapted to facilitate the removal of hair by shaving, due to the fact that they effect a softening of the hair so that there is less tendency to dull the razor blade, and that they also support the hair so that the blade attacks and severs the hair follicles at the base thereof without there being any tendency for the blade to glide over the hairs without properly cutting them. Heretofore for shaving purposes, it has been customary to employ shaving compounds containing an active ingredient soap, and more particularly a potash soap, in order to effect this softening of the hair so as not to dull the edge of the razor blade too much. To a limited extent, the foam produced by the lathering operation serves also to support the hair, but such supporting action was at the most but momentary and limited.

My investigations have led to the discovery that alginic acid and its salts, such for example as the sodium and potassium salts thereof, not only emulsify and thereby soften the fatty material or oils in the hair far better than soap, but owing to the high viscosity of their solutions, possess in addition the property of creating in conjunction with soap, a very firm and lasting lather, and thus are especially suited for use in the shaving operation.

The following are examples of compositions embodying my invention:—

60 parts of soap (or potash soap)
20 " " alginate of soda 7½% solution
20 " " talc (soapstone)
20 " " water

or again:

60 parts of soap (or potash soap)
15 " " alginate of soda 7½% solution
30 " " talc (soapstone)
26 " " water

Various different proportions of ingredients may be employed other than those above set forth, but the essential features of the invention are the employment of the soluble salts of alginic acid or even alginic acid itself, as sodium alginate or potassium or other soluble salt, simple or double salt of alginic acid capable of successful substitution for the sodium alginate in my improved composition, but the proportions of alginate of soda or its equivalent in alginic acid or other salts thereof calculated, should not be less than an amount which is necessary to exert a noticeable improvement in the lathering properties of the composition, but preferably I employ between $\frac{1}{10}$% and 20%.

The amount of water in the mixture while preferably in excess of 10%, may vary within a considerable range, such as is now customary in shaving soap cakes, paste and powders.

The amount of talc is preferably between 10% and 50% by weight of the shaving composition, the same being added to the liquid mixture of the other ingredients while in a fine pulverulent condition and being intimately incorporated therewith by stirring. However, while such a talc is an advantageous ingredient of shaving compositions generally, as set forth in my Patent No. 1,667,993, its use in the herein described composition is not essential and the same may be omitted entirely if desired.

My improved composition not only facilitates the shaving operation for the reasons above explained, but also the lather is far less evanescent and therefore persists for much longer periods than ordinary lather. Furthermore, when the composition is washed from the face, the skin is left in a clean, freshened and velvety condition and all hairs are uniformly severed at the very base thereof.

Various additional ingredients other than those above mentioned may be incorporated in the mixture containing alginic acid or the salts thereof without departing from the spirit of my invention as embraced within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to obtain by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A shaving composition comprising as the major ingredient thereof a lathering soap and containing minor percentages of a salt of alginic acid, of an inert inorganic filler of a slippery nature and of water, said composition being adapted to form a lather of unusual persistence and being without objectionable action upon the skin of a human face and also being adapted to leave the skin in a clean fresh and velvety condition after the shaving operation is completed, as well as to assist in effecting the uniform severance of the hairs at the base thereof by the razor blade in the shaving operation.

2. A shaving soap composition comprising in excess of 50 parts of a potash soap, a small amount of a salt alginic acid in excess of 10 parts of an inert filler of soap stone and in excess of 10% of water, said composition being adapted to form a lather of unusual persistence and being without objectionable action upon the skin of a human face and also being adapted to

leave the skin in a clean fresh and velvety condition after the shaving operation is completed, as well as to assist in effecting the uniform severance of the hairs at the base thereof by the razor blade in the shaving operation.

3. A shaving soap composition comprising as its principal ingredient a potash soap together with a small amount of a salt of alginic acid and substantial quantities, not less than 15% each, of talc and water respectively, said composition being adapted to form a lather of unusual persistence and being without objectionable action upon the skin of a human face and also being adapted to leave the skin in a clean fresh and velvety condition after the shaving operation is completed, as well as to assist in effecting the uniform severance of the hairs at the base thereof by the razor blade in the shaving operation.

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