March 15, 1960 W. A. OLSON 2,928,270

DIAPER HOLDER

Filed March 12, 1958

Fig. 1

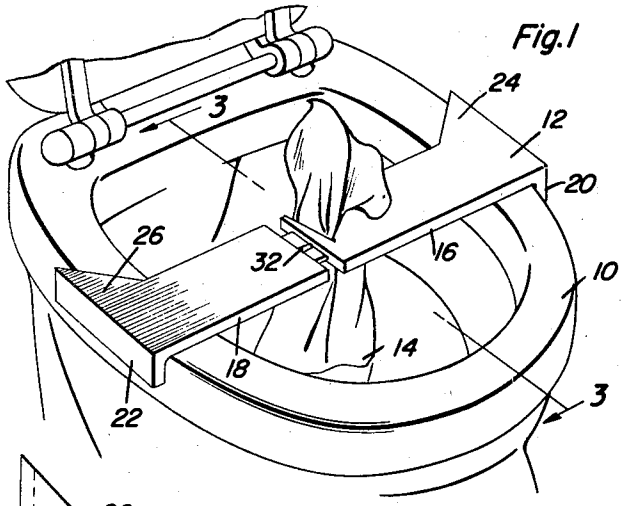
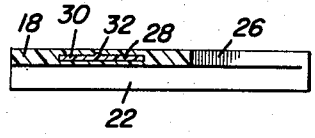


Fig. 4



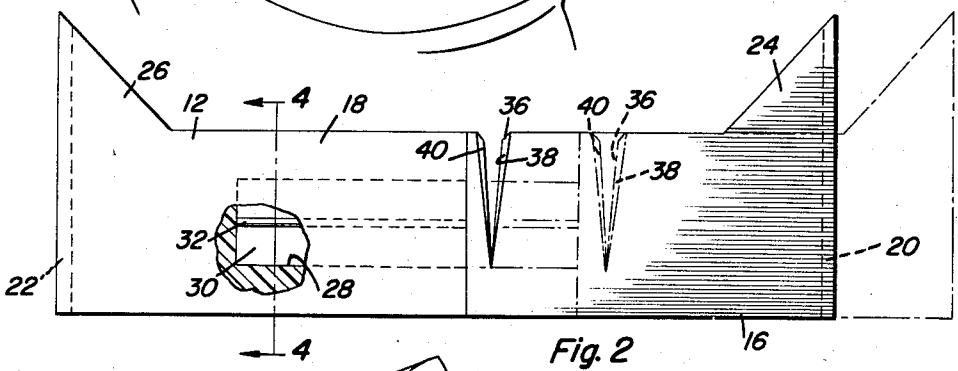
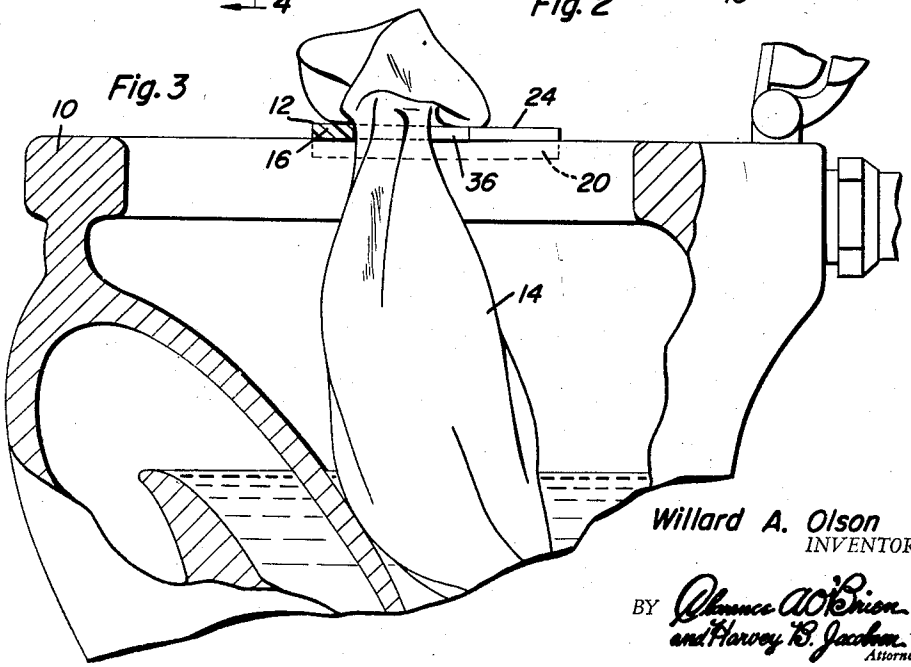


Fig. 2

Fig. 3



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DIAPER HOLDER

Willard A. Olson, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Application March 12, 1958, Serial No. 720,959
2 Claims. (Cl. 68—199)

This invention relates to an appliance for facilitating the handling of a diaper for preliminary washing.

An object of the invention is to provide an appliance that fits over or otherwise attaches across the open top of a toilet bowl and firmly supports a diaper so that the major part of the diaper is located in the bowl while one or more corners of the diaper are held in place at an elevated position. The appliance provides an automatic warning to people that the diaper is in the toilet bowl and is there to soak. Should the toilet bowl be flushed, the diaper is held, by the appliance, very tightly and safely so that it will not enter the sewage system.

Another object of the invention is to provide an appliance for safely supporting a diaper partially submerged in the water of a toilet bowl, the appliance being adjustable to fit various manufacturer's makes and sizes of toilet bowls.

Other objects and features of importance will become apparent in following the description of the illustrated form of the invention.

Figure 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of a toilet bowl with the appliance thereon.

Figure 2 is a top view of the appliance in Figure 1, parts shown in section and the adjustability illustrated in a dotted line second position representation.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

In the accompanying drawing there is a toilet bowl **10** that has an appliance **12** that represents one embodiment of the invention. This appliance is separably mounted on the toilet bowl and extends across the top opening of the bowl. Diaper **14** represents any garment which would ordinarily or customarily be soaked in the water of a toilet bowl. Most generally such garments are diapers and therefore a diaper has been illustrated.

Appliance **12** consists of a structural support having a pair of members **16** and **18** extensibly connected to each other. Each member is flat and is made of plastic, wood or any other suitable material. The members **16** and **18** constitute sections of appliance **12**, and each section has means at its outer end for gripping the upper edge of toilet bowl **10**. The means for gripping the toilet bowl are composed of downturned flanges **20** and **22** which fit along the side surfaces of the toilet bowl upper rim. The flanges extend for a distance that is greater than the average width of each section with gussets **24** and **26** making up the difference in width.

Section **18** has an elongated passage **28** that opens through its inner end. Section **16** has an elongate flat tongue **30** that is slidably disposed in passage **28** and that has a rib **32** on one of its surfaces engaged with a corresponding groove in passage **28**. The passage and tongue together with the rib and groove constitute the previously mentioned means for extensibly connecting the sections of the appliance.

One of the sections has a notch **36** that opens outwardly through an edge of the section. This notch forms a V-shaped pocket into which a part of diaper **14** is wedged to hold the diaper firmly attached to the appliance. Side walls **38** and **40** of notch **36** are tapered to increase the gripping action of the notched side walls on the diaper when the diaper is firmly pushed into place.

In use, the appliance is fitted on the toilet bowl with the notch **38** facing forward or rearward depending on the desires of the user. A diaper **14** has two or more of its ends fitted into the notch **36** by pressing the ends firmly thereinto. This wedges the diaper in place so that it cannot be drawn into the toilet even if the toilet is flushed. Yet, the major part of the diaper can remain in the water so that the diaper may be left to soak for long periods of time. The presence of the appliance on the toilet bowl serves as a warning to others that the diaper is in the toilet.

All modifications that fall within the scope of the following claims may be resorted to without departing from the claimed invention.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. An appliance for a toilet bowl, said appliance comprising a pair of essentially flat elongated sections having adjacent ends and side edges, means extensibly connecting said ends of said sections together, clamps at the outer ends of said sections to engage the toilet bowl and hold said sections in a position spanning the open top of the toilet bowl, means in one of said sections for gripping a diaper to hold it in position so that the diaper can soak in the toilet bowl while the appliance prevents the diaper from being drawn into the toilet bowl trap, said diaper gripping means including a notch in one of said sections and spaced from said confronting end thereof and opening through one side edge of said last mentioned section, and said notch having side walls which are inclined with respect to the upper surface of said last mentioned section to enhance the gripping action between said notch side walls and the diaper.

2. The appliance of claim 1 wherein said clamps at the outer ends of said sections include downturned flanges to grip against the outer surfaces of the toilet bowl, said means extensibly connecting said sections including a tongue extending from the inner end of one section and a groove opening through the confronting inner end of the other section and having said tongue fitted therein.

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