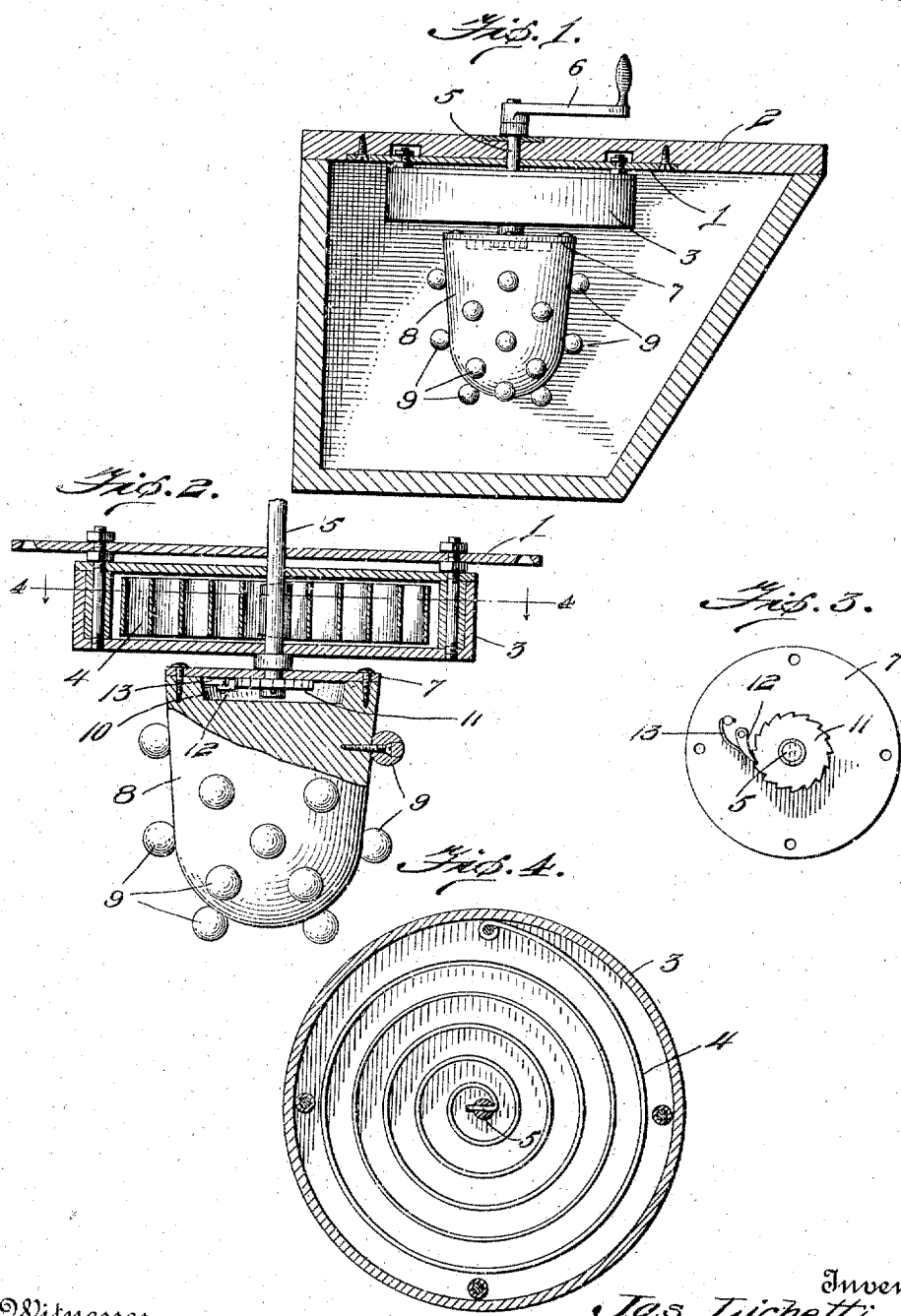


J. LICHETTI.
WASHING MACHINE.
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Patented Jan. 3, 1911.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES LICHETTI, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

WASHING-MACHINE.

980,299.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 3, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES LICHETTI, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washing-Machines; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in washing machines.

One object of the invention is to provide a washing machine adapted to be applied to the cover of an ordinary stationary or other form of wash tub whereby the clothes therein may be easily and thoroughly washed.

Another object is to provide a washing machine having a spring actuated clothes rubber by means of which the labor of operating the machine is greatly reduced.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view through a stationary wash tub showing my improved washing machine applied thereto; Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the clothes rubber and its operating mechanism removed from the tub; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the inner side of the rubber attaching plate showing the pawl and ratchet operating mechanism by means of which the handle is connected to the rubber; Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 4-4 of Fig. 2.

Referring more particularly to the drawings 1 denotes the attaching plate of the machine the latter being fastened by screws or similar fastening devices to the inner side of the cover 2 of a stationary or other form of washtub. To the plate 1 is bolted or otherwise secured a spring casing 3 in which is arranged a coiled rubber operating spring 4 one end of which is secured to the casing 3 in any suitable manner while the other end is secured to a winding shaft 5 which is revolvably mounted in the casing 3 and projects upwardly therethrough and through the attaching plate 1 and cover 2 of the tub. On the upper end of the shaft 5 is arranged

a crank handle 6 by means of which the shaft is revolved in the proper direction for winding up the spring 4. The lower end of the shaft 5 projects through the lower side of the casing 3 and has loosely mounted thereon a rubber attaching plate 7 to which is secured my improved clothes rubber 8. The rubber 8 consists of a substantially semi-oval shaped wooden block of suitable size in the outer curved surface of which at suitable intervals are arranged a series of rubbing balls or knobs 9 said balls or knobs being secured to the block by screws or other suitable fastening devices as shown. In the upper or flat side of the rubber is formed a centrally disposed recess 10 into which the lower end of the shaft 5 projects after passing through the rubber attaching plate 7. On the lower end of the shaft 5 within the recess 10 is fixedly mounted a ratchet gear 11 with which is engaged a pawl 12 which is arranged in the recess 10 and pivotally secured to the rubber attaching plate 7. The pawl 12 is held in operative engagement with the ratchet gear 11 by a spring 13 also secured to the plate 7 as clearly shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings.

By thus arranging the parts it will be seen that when the crank handle 6 and shaft 5 are turned in one direction that the spring 4 will be wound up on the shaft so that when the handle is released the pressure of the spring will be exerted to revolve the clothes rubber 8 thereby agitating and rubbing the clothes in the tub which operation will thoroughly cleanse the clothes. In using the machine it is simply necessary to give the handle a slight turn which will wind the spring sufficiently to cause the rubber to make several revolutions when the handle is released. It will thus be seen that the real washing operation is performed by the spring and the only effort or work required of the operator is to successively unwind the spring.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

In a washing machine comprising a tub, a cover, a supporting plate secured to the underside of said cover, a casing detachably

secured thereto having a rotating spring-actuating shaft mounted therein and having its opposite ends projecting therefrom, a rubber having a recess in its upper surface
5 provided with a plate for inclosing the same, the lower ends of the shaft being inserted through the plate and projecting into the recess and having secured thereon a ratchet below said plate and within the recess, a
10 pawl, a rubber depending from the shaft having a plurality of balls secured to its

surrounding outer surface and bottom portions, said balls being arranged in staggered position thereon, and means for rotating said shaft.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES LICHETTI.

Witnesses:

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