Sept. 16, 1941. F. KUHN ET AL 2,256,147

HANDLE

Filed April 1, 1940

FIG.1.

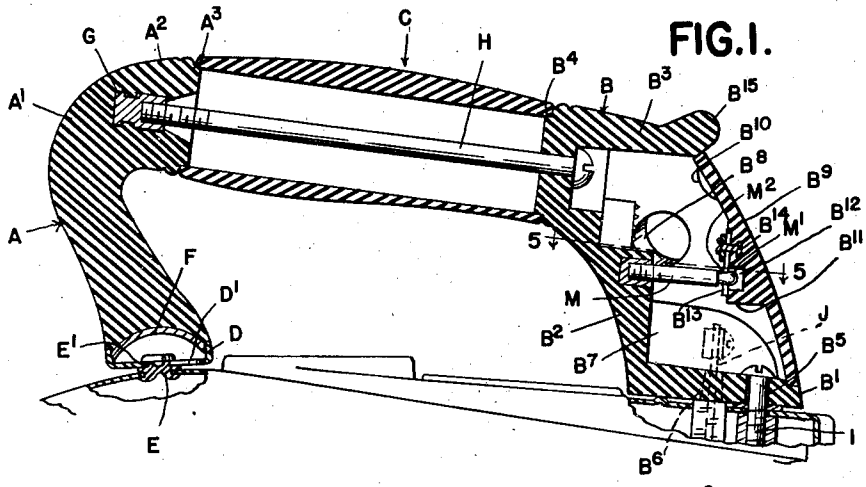


FIG.2.

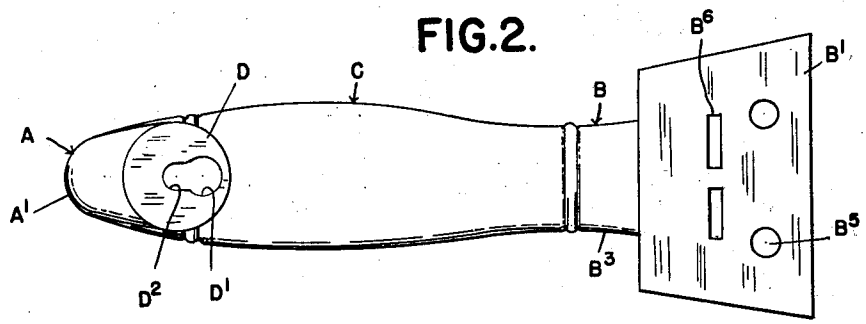
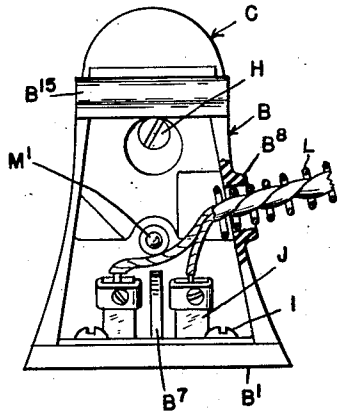


FIG.3.



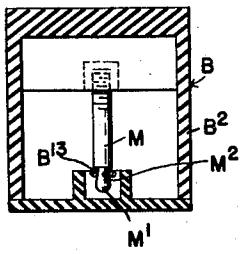


FIG.5.

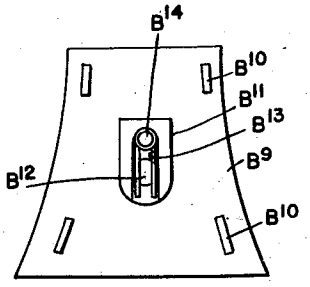


FIG.4.

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HANDLE

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Application April 1, 1940, Serial No. 327,307

3 Claims. (Cl. 38—90)

The invention relates to handles designed for use on electric laundry irons and the like, and has for one of its objects the obtaining of a construction which can be formed of heat resisting molded material, such as "Bakelite." It is a further object to obtain a construction in which the electrical connections are enclosed within a portion of the handle and in such a manner as to provide ready access thereto for repairs. A further object is to form the handle of a plurality of sections which facilitates the molding of the same and which, if desired, may be of different colors, and also to provide concealed means for securing these sections to each other. With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction as hereinafter set forth.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section;

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view;

Figure 3 is a rear elevation with the cover removed;

Figure 4 is an elevation of the cover viewed from the inside;

Figure 5 is a horizontal section on line 5—5 of Figure 1.

In the present state of the art there is a demand for tools that are ornamental in appearance, as well as useful. Synthetic materials, such as "Bakelite" can be made in various colors and molded to any desired form. Also, such materials are usually dielectric so as to be well adapted for handles of electrical instruments, particularly where the electrical connections are attached thereto. We have, therefore, designed a handle construction formed of a plurality of molded sections of "Bakelite" or similar material secured to each other by concealed attachment means to form a unit which is readily attachable to or detachable from the tool to which it is applied.

In detail, our improved handle is preferably formed in three sections A, B and C. The sections A and B form columns which rise from the instrument and are connected to each other at their upper ends by the handhold section C. The forward section A is provided at its lower end with means for attaching it to the hood of the laundry iron or other tool. This is preferably accomplished by a metallic cap D at the bottom of the section having an entrance aperture D' at one side of its center, and a narrower slot D^2 exending to the center. The hood of the iron is provided with an upwardly extending post E for entering through the aperture D' and with an annular groove E' for engaging the portions of the cap on opposite sides of the slot D'. There is also preferably a concave metallic member F within the cap D, which provides a recess in which the head of the pin E can move. This construction permits of quickly attaching or detaching the section A from the laundry iron or tool.

The section A above the cap D inclines forwardly in an upward direction and at its upper end is provided with a rounded portion A', merging into a horizontally extending portion A^2. The latter has a nut G molded therein and is also provided with an annular peripheral groove A^3 forming a seat for engaging the end of the handhold section C. The latter is preferably tubular so as to reduce the weight of the structure and to provide a gripping surface of proper size and form.

The section B is hollow so as to form a recess for receiving the terminals from the electrical heating unit and the connections between these terminals and the flexible conductor cord. As shown, the section is provided with a flat base portion B' for resting upon the hood of the iron, a portion B^2 extending upward from this base which is of substantially U-shaped cross section to form a recess open at the rear, and a horizontally extending portion B^3 having a peripheral groove B^4 for receiving the opposite end of the handhold section C. A bolt or screw H inserted through the recess and an aperture in the portion B^3 extends axially through the handhold portion C, and has its threaded end engaged with the nut G. Thus, when the screw is tightened the three sections A, B and C will be securely clamped to each other, while the bolt and nut are concealed therein. The base portion B' is apertured at B^5 for the passage of screws I, which secure the section to the hood of the iron, and is further provided with a pair of apertures B^6 for the upward passage therethrough of the terminals J of the heating unit. Between the apertures B^6 is a central rib or partition B^7 which separates the terminals J from each other. One side of the section B has a projecting boss B^8 which is apertured for the passage of the conductor cord and also for receiving the end of a helical resilient guard member L which protects the cord. There is also a horizontally extending metallic post M, the inner end of which is embedded in the wall of the section B, its outer end being provided with a knob M' and a tapering shank portion M^2 adjacent to said knob. This forms a fastener for securing a rear cover plate

B^9 which closes the recess and completes the section B. The cover plate has formed on its inner side projecting lugs B^{10}, which hold it in registration with the section B, and a central inwardly projecting lug B^{11} has a recess B^{12} therein for receiving the knob M' of the post M. A U-shaped spring member B^{13} is secured to the lug B^{11} by a rivet B^{14}. This in cooperation with the knob M' and tapering shank M^2 forms a spring catch for drawing the cover plate B^9 to its seat and retaining it in this position. The section B is further provided with a rearwardly projecting rib B^{15} arranged above the cover plate and forming a rest for supporting the laundry iron, when not in use, in upright position.

With the construction as described, to attach the handle to the hood of the laundry iron, the forward section A is first engaged with the post E by inserting the latter through the entrance orifice D' and then engaging it with the slot D^2. This may be accomplished when the handle is in an angular position with the section B raised sufficiently to clear the upwardly extending terminals J. The section B is then moved downward to engage said terminals with the apertures B^6 in the base B', after which said section is secured to the hood of the iron by screws J inserted through the apertures B^5. In thus drawing the section B downward the section A is tilted sufficiently to take up any lost motion between the post E and the cap D, thereby forming a tight connection.

What we claim as our invention is:

1. A handle for electric laundry irons or the like comprising a plurality of sections of dielectric material including a pair of spaced column sections merging at their upper ends in oppositely extending portions with annular seats at their ends, a tubular handhold section between said column sections and engaging the annular seats in the oppositely extending portions thereof, the rear column section being recessed from its rear side to form a chamber for receiving the terminals of the electrical heating unit and the connections thereto and said forward section having threads therein, a bolt for securing said sections to each other having its head in the recess in said rear column section its shank passing through said tubular handhold section and its threaded portion engaging said threads in the forward column section, and a cover for closing the recess in said rear section having a snap-on engagement therewith.

2. A handle for electric laundry irons or the like formed of dielectric material and including spaced forward and rearward columns, attachment means between the forward column and the body of the iron comprising a metallic cap engaging the lower end of the column, a headed pin and a slotted flange for engaging the same, the one on said cap and the other on the body of the iron and being engageable when said column is inclined relative to its normal position, and a screw for clamping the rear column to the body of the iron thereby moving said forward column from its inclined to its normal position and tightening the connection between said headed pin and slotted flange.

3. A handle for electric laundry irons or the like comprising a plurality of sections of insulating material including a pair of spaced column sections fashioned at their upper ends to merge into oppositely extending portions having annular seats at their ends, a tubular handhold section extending between the oppositely extending portions of the aforesaid sections and fashioned to merge thereinto and engage said annular seats, the forward column section having threads therein in axial alignment with said handhold section, said rear column having a recess opening from the rear side thereof adapted to receive the electrical terminals of the iron and the electrical connections thereto, a bolt insertable into said recess to extend axially through said tubular handhold section into engagement with the threads in said forward column thereby securing said columns and handhold section to each other, a pin and slotted flange attachment between said forward column and the body of the iron and a screw for clamping said rear column to the body of the iron, said screw being located in said recess and passing downward therefrom through the bottom of said column, and a detachable rear cover plate for closing said recess.

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