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SPONGE RUBBER SOAP HOLDER

Filed Nov. 11, 1929

Fig. 1.

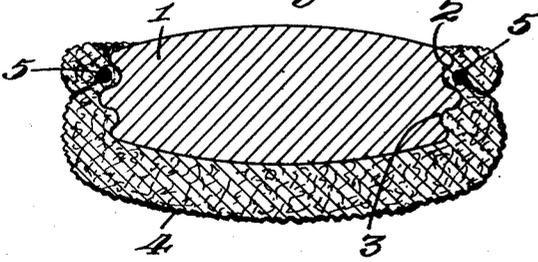


Fig. 2.

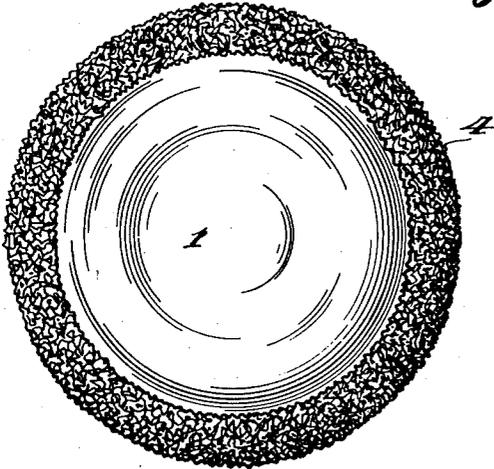


Fig. 3.

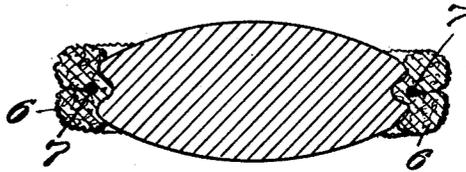


Fig. 4.

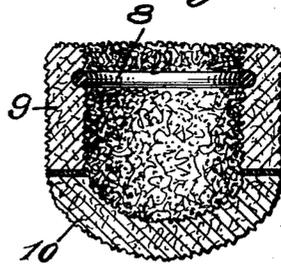
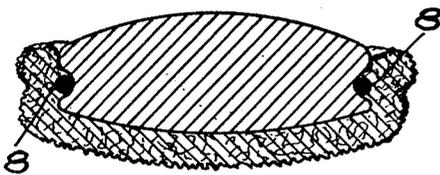


Fig. 5.



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SPONGE RUBBER SOAP HOLDER

Application filed November 11, 1929. Serial No. 406,489.

This invention relates to a device for washing, and more particularly to the combination with a cake of soap, of a holder and scrubbing member removably attached thereto.

Figure 1 is a cross section through the cake of soap having one embodiment of the invention applied thereto;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the soap and holding and scrubbing member shown in Fig. 1;

Figure 3 is a transverse sectional view of a modification;

Figure 4 is a transverse sectional view of the sponge rubber member for receiving the cake of soap, having the elastic band attached thereto in modified manner, the device being shown before application to the soap; and

Figure 5 is a transverse sectional view showing the device of Fig. 4, applied to a cake of soap.

The soap and holder may be attached in any suitable manner; for instance, by providing the cake of soap with a groove into which fits an elastic rubber ring attached to the sponge rubber member. In the usual manner of use the sponge rubber or similar material is grasped by the hand and the soap applied to the body. The device is then reversed in the hand and the body scrubbed with the sponge rubber. When the cake of soap is worn out the sponge rubber member may be applied to another cake of soap, or the cake of soap may be reversed and the other side used. The soap may have two grooves, so that the sponge rubber may be readily attached by means of the second groove if the first groove is worn down as the cake of soap is partly used up. The second groove also facilitates the reversal of the cake.

In the figures, 1 designates the cake of soap provided with the circumferential grooves 2 and 3. 4 is the sponge rubber member preferably porous throughout and on both surfaces, and having indented therein or attached thereto a securing member 5 preferably in the form of a ring of elastic rubber.

As a modification, a sponge rubber ring may be applied around the periphery of the

cake of soap, leaving both sides of the soap exposed, the sponge rubber member being used to prevent the soap from slipping out of the hand. This modification is illustrated in Fig. 3, the sponge rubber ring being designated by the numeral 6 and being provided with elastic or other retaining ring 7.

Fig. 4 shows the sponge rubber member before application to the cake of soap and having an elastic rubber retaining ring 8 cemented or otherwise suitably secured to the inner surface of the sponge rubber portion, and Fig. 5 shows a sponge rubber member having a retaining ring thus attached on the inside and after expansion and application to the cake of soap. From an inspection of Fig. 4 in connection with Figure 5, it will be noted that when the sponge rubber holder is applied to the cake of soap, said holder is stretched to a very considerable extent, that is, from its relatively small contracted condition, as illustrated in Fig. 4 to its relatively widely expanded condition in Fig. 5. This results in corresponding substantial tension of the holder across the back face of the cake of soap, while leaving substantially the entire front face thereof exposed for contact with the body of the user. The tensioning of the holder also gives it the capability of gradually contracting to follow in the shrinkage or reduction in size of the cake of soap incident to washing action. This exposure of the face, desirably outwardly beyond the edges of the holder, is maintained at all times because of the tension of the holder referred to, which causes a contracting action of the holder rearwardly towards and across the back face of the cake of soap. Owing to this action the holder cannot become loose or baggy, but maintains a hugging and facewise engagement at all times with the cake of soap, nor is it possible for the holder to swallow up, so to speak, or enclose the cake in such fashion as to cause the front face thereof to occupy a position within the holder rendering it impossible to contact the soap directly with the body of the user.

The foregoing is to be distinguished from any such article as where the sponge rubber material is unstretched or normally loose and

capable of bagging, or where the sponge rubber is merely held in place at some localized relatively small zone leaving the main body of the sponge rubber free and under no compelling influence to adjust itself in keeping with the shrinkage of the cake of soap to maintain a close grip on and firm facial engagement with the cake of soap where the sponge rubber overlies the same.

Further, when the sponge rubber is stretched, as contemplated by the present invention, a much better scrubbing action may be obtained than where the sponge rubber is free or unstretched. The stretching also, of course, facilitates the opening of the pores of the sponge rubber adjacent the back of the cake of soap over which the holder lies, thus lending to a freer and quicker passage of the soap into the holder and the creation of suds with the moisture in the latter. Still further, the completed article lends itself to sanitation because of the porosity of the holder throughout its entire area, as distinguished from any closely confining impervious envelope or casing that is not exposed to water or washing action and, therefore, leaves dark, confined, unventilated and unwashable portions interiorly of the article.

As shown in Fig. 4 the sponge rubber member may be made of portions 9 and 10 cemented or otherwise joined together and such portions may be of different textures or contrasting colors.

While the present specification illustrates and describes in detail certain preferred forms of the invention, it is to be understood that changes may be made therein and the invention may be embodied in other structures. The invention, therefore, is not limited to the specific constructions illustrated.

What I claim is:

1. An article of manufacture comprising a sponge rubber holder and washing member adapted to be connected to and carried by a cake of soap having a circumferentially extending shoulder, said member adapted to extend over one face of the cake of soap and around the edge thereof and fitted over said shoulder to retain the same in place, the opposite face of the cake of soap and the shoulder being so related that said face will project outwardly beyond the edges of the sponge rubber member to facilitate direct contact of the soap with the body of the user, the edge of the sponge rubber member having a highly contractible elastic means adapted to maintain firm engagement of the sponge rubber member with the cake of soap, while permitting reduction in size of the latter incident to shrinkage under washing action.

2. As an article of manufacture, a sponge rubber holder and washing member adapted to be connected to and carried by a cake of soap having a circumferential shoulder, said member adapted to be tensioned over one

face of the cake of soap and interfitted with said shoulder to retain the sponge rubber member in place, the tension of the sponge rubber member being adapted as the cake of soap shrinks under washing action to contract towards and over said face to prevent bagging of said member or protrusion thereof beyond the opposite face of the cake of soap whereby the latter is left exposed for contact with the body of the user.

3. An article of manufacture comprising a porous, resilient holder and washing member adapted to be connected to and carried by a cake of soap having a peripheral groove, said member being adapted to be stretched over one face of the cake of soap and around the edge thereof, the opposite face of the cake of soap being projected and exposed beyond the edge of said porous member, and a highly contractible band associated with the edge of the porous member drawing the same into close confinement with the grooved portion of the cake of soap whereby the contractibility of the stretched porous member and of said band will cause the holder to follow the shrinkage of the cake of soap incident to washing while maintaining close contact of the holder and cake of soap over the covered face and edge of the latter.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature to this specification.

HENRY C. HEBIG.

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