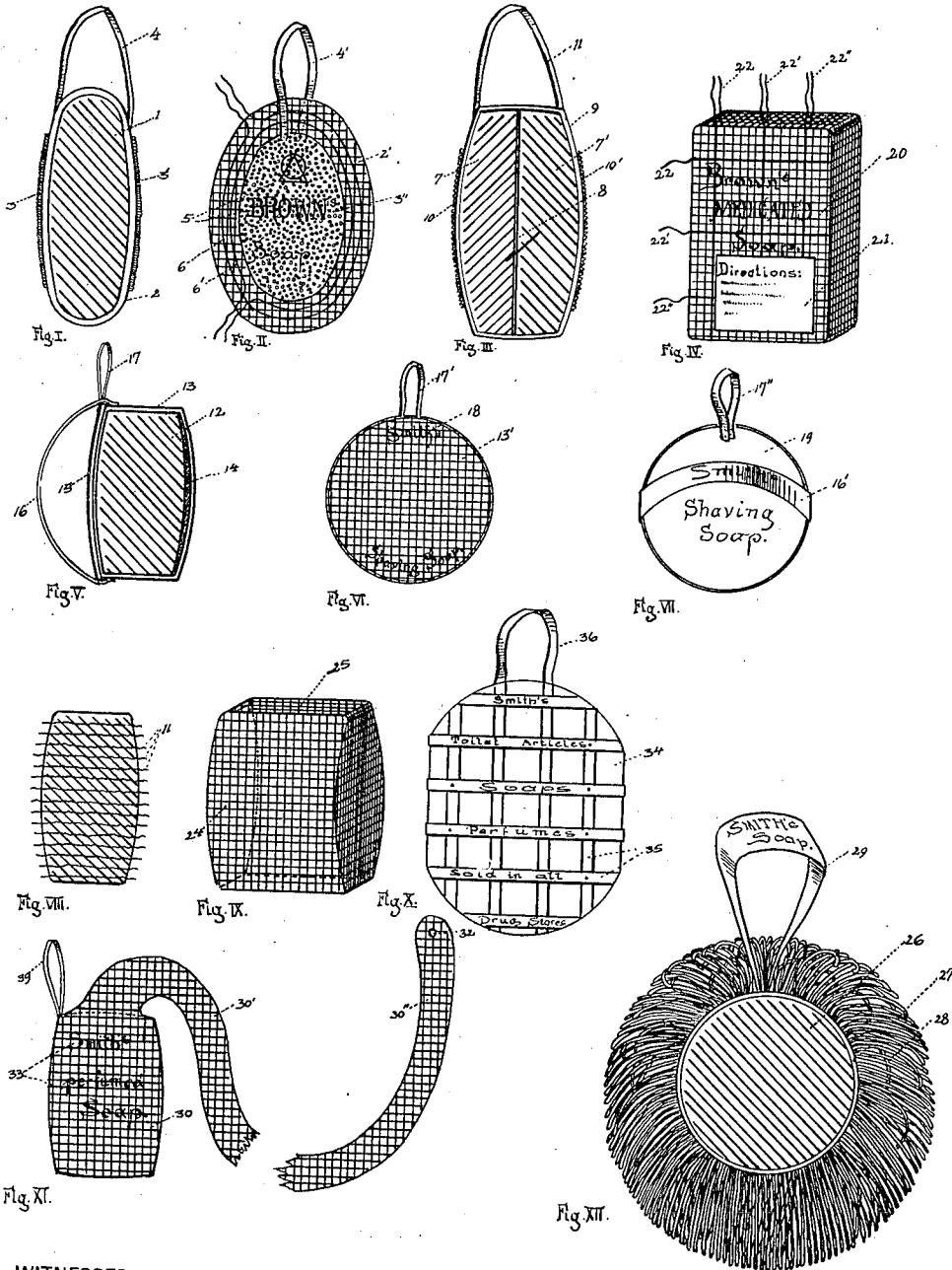


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SOAP COVER AND SOAP APPLYING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 1, 1917.

1,292,982.

Patented Jan. 28, 1919.



WITNESSES:

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SOAP-COVER AND SOAP-APPLYING DEVICE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed September 1, 1917. Serial No. 189,422.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MELANIE WOLF, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Soap-Covers and Soap-Appling Devices, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention pertains to soap covers and soap applying devices, and has among its main objects the purpose to increase the efficiency of soap material by putting every particle to use, thereby preventing any waste of soap; to make superfluous the employing of a soap tray; and furthermore to prevent or discourage the fraudulent substitution or sale of one certain kind of soap for another by attaching the manufacturer's name, trade mark and other printing indelibly to the permeable casing which incloses and remains on the soap as long as it lasts.

Another object of my device is its use for shaving purposes, whereby the use of shaving cup and brush is dispensed with, inasmuch as the lather is directly produced and applied on the part where needed without any waste of soap and lather; in addition to this it is much more convenient to use my device than using a separate shaving-soap, brush and cup, and the entire process is also much simplified.

For these purposes, I inclose the soap in a porous well fitting casing, made of sufficiently rough material to exert friction on both sides, the inner surface to rub against the soap when the latter is used, the outer surface to exert friction on the surface or part to be cleansed. It is a well known fact that a piece of soap, when wet, is too unyieldy and slippery to be used to advantage directly on almost any part of the body without using an intermediate wash-cloth on which the lather is created and deposited, and thus a good deal of soap is wasted as only a fraction of the lather soaked up by said cloth is actually used. In using my device, no soap material is wasted as the soap or lather not used up is retained within the casing to be used at some future occasion. There is a loop attached to the casing for hanging up the soap to a wall or similar object which renders the use of a soap-tray unnecessary. This loop or similar attachment may be made of sufficient length and fastened to the wall or similar object so

that the casing containing the cake of soap may be used without detaching it from its support.

One more object and advantage of my device is its use for medicated soaps as the directions for use can be printed indelibly on the porous casing inclosing the soap and remaining on it, which is of great advantage, as the paper slip giving the directions for use is usually discarded shortly after being read, and the soap then frequently used in a haphazard way or entirely discarded.

Any name, trade mark or other wording may also be applied to the casing by embroidery or other needle work.

In the preferred arrangement which is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, similar figures denote corresponding parts.

Figure I is a longitudinal sectional view of my device; Fig. II is a general view of my device, showing a piece of soap inclosed in the porous casing; Fig. III shows a longitudinal sectional view through two pieces of soap surrounded by a permeable casing; Fig. IV shows my device preferably adapted to the purpose of medicated soaps; Fig. V represents a cross sectional view of my device preferably adapted for shaving purposes; Fig. VI represents a general front view, and Fig. VII a general back view of the device shown in Fig. V; Fig. VIII shows a piece of soap pierced at suitable intervals by pliable cords to increase the friction to the soap by the casing shown in Fig. IX, in which the soap is to be inclosed; Fig. X represents a piece of soap enveloped in a casing of wide-meshed netting; Fig. XI shows the casing containing the soap adapted to be fastened to the wall; Fig. XII denotes a longitudinal sectional view of a piece of soap surrounded by a thick woolly casing.

In Fig. I, representing a longitudinal sectional view of my device, 1 denotes a piece of soap which is entirely inclosed in a casing 2 which is composed of a gauze-like material and fits over the soap 1; 3 and 3' are pieces of permeable pliable material, roughened on both sides, and inserted in the gauze casing, the outer surface of each being designed to exert friction on the part or surface to be cleansed, its inner surface to exert friction on the soap with which it is in contact; thereby serving a double purpose, i. e., detaching soap material and creating a

dense lather which penetrates through the porous openings of the casing 2 and is deposited on the skin or other surface to be cleansed, and rubbing over this surface at the same time, thereby cleansing it effectively and economically. 4 is a loop fastened to the casing enveloping the soap and serving to hang the same to the wall or other convenient object.

Fig. II is a general view of the device shown and described in Fig. I. 2' represents the gauze casing surrounding the soap, 3'' denotes the piece of pliable roughened material inserted in the casing 2' to increase friction; 5 represents the manufacturer's name and trade mark printed indelibly on the casing to identify a certain product and prevent fraudulent substitution. 4' shows the loop for supporting the soap from a hook or similar object, as also shown in Fig. I. 6 and 6' represent a number of cords which are passed through the casing in such a manner that by pulling the cords and tying them the capacity of the casing will be diminished; thus when the piece of soap within the casing gets gradually smaller, the cords can be pulled taut around the soap, if desired, and the casing will fit again snugly around the soap.

Fig. III shows a longitudinal sectional view of two pieces of soap inclosed in one casing. 7 denotes a soap for coarse cleaning purposes, while 7' represents a mild toilet soap; they are separated by a rubber sheet 8 which is fastened to the porous casing 9 which surrounds both pieces of soap. 10 and 10' are separate pieces inserted on either side of casing 9, and composed preferably of horse hair netting so as to exert strong friction on either side. 11 is a loop for supporting the soap when not in use. If a soap for coarse cleaning purposes is desired, soap 7 is wetted and portion 10 is applied and rubbed against the part to be cleansed; friction against the respective soap is exerted at the same time, a rich lather will be created and deposited on the part desired; if a mild cleaning action is wanted, part 10' is wetted and applied to the part to be cleansed, friction against the soap 7' is exerted at the same time, and thus this variety of the device will serve a double purpose. After the soap is used it is hung up by the loop 11 for thorough drying.

Fig. IV shows the use of my device as applicable for medicated soaps, which frequently have to be used according to fixed directions or a physician's prescription. It is a well known fact that very frequently, whenever a medicated soap is procured, the slip of paper giving directions for its use is very soon mislaid or lost, after which the soap is either used in a haphazard way or frequently entirely discarded for a new one. When my device is used, the medicated soap

is inclosed in a porous envelop, and the directions as well as the manufacturer's name or other printing is indelibly applied on the porous casing 20 in which the soap is inclosed which casing is designed to remain on the soap as long as it lasts. Should this material be too porous to permit of proper printing, a separate label 21 carrying the directions and being composed of denser material could be permanently fastened to the inclosing casing. 22, 22', 22'', denote a number of cords passed through the casing to decrease its capacity when drawn taut which may become necessary as the soap gets gradually smaller. In some cases, particularly if the enveloping casing is made of a thick porous material, the same may be impregnated with some additional drug or medicinal substance, as indicated, and thus used in conjunction with the soap.

Fig. V represents a longitudinal sectional view of the device especially adapted for shaving purposes. 12 denotes a piece of soap inclosed in the permeable casing 13; 14 represents a cushion, made preferably of horse hair, which lies in direct contact with the soap; if desired, a cushion of some other material may be used. 15 is a water-tight sheet, made preferably of rubber, and covering the back part of the shaving soap so as to protect the hand of the person using it. 16 indicates a band attached to the casing for the purpose of passing the hand through when the soap is used. 17 is a loop serving to hang up the soap to some convenient object when not in use.

Fig. VI represents a front view of the device shown in Fig. V. 13' indicates the porous front part of the casing covering the shaving-soap, 18 denotes the manufacturer's name or some other printing on the surface overlying the hair cushion described in Fig. V. To facilitate the printing, the part of the porous casing carrying the printing may be of denser texture than the rest of the porous material, or a separate label may be attached for the purpose. 17' is the loop for hanging up the soap when not in use.

Fig. VII represents the back view of the device shown in Figs. V and VI. 19 denotes the water-tight back part of the casing which incloses the shaving soap, and is shown in detail in Figs. V and VI. 16' shows the band for passing the hand through when the soap is used, and is also shown in Fig. V. 17'' denotes the loop for hanging up the soap when not in use. When this device is to be used for shaving, for which purpose a rather stiff and rich lather is desired, the cushion overlying the soap is soaked in water, and when rubbed against the part to be shaved, a profuse lather is produced and deposited on the skin, as the cushion rubs against the soap producing the

lather which penetrates the hair cushion to its outer surface as well as escaping at the sides and through the porous material covering the soap and is thus deposited on the part to be shaved. This device will also be very useful for other purposes where a rich lather is desired.

Fig. VIII represents a longitudinal sectional view of a piece of soap pierced at intervals by pieces of cord 11, the ends of which are extending beyond the surfaces of the soap and which are designed to increase the friction on the soap after the same is passed and inclosed in the porous casing 24, which is shown in Fig. IX; the opening 25 of this casing is closed after the soap is passed in.

In Fig. X, 34 represents a piece of soap covered by the wide-meshed netting 35, which is constructed of bands of material which cross one another at rather wide intervals; the outer surfaces of the bands are used for being printed upon, as shown. Wherever the bands cross one another, the point of contact may be fixed by fastening the bands together at this contact point in order to prevent them from sliding apart and releasing the inclosed piece of soap; when not in use it may be supported by the loop 36. In this manner of construction several very useful features of my invention are combined inasmuch as very free access of the water to the soap is afforded, and when used, this casing will exert considerable friction on the soap as well as on the part to be cleansed; in addition to this, the application of the manufacturer's name and other printing in indelible color on the bands will protect the user from being imposed upon; or the individual name of the owner of the soap may thus be attached to the casing. This casing could be also conveniently provided with means for decreasing its capacity when the piece of soap becomes gradually smaller, by inserting suitable pieces of cord or similar means for the purpose, as described previously.

Fig. XI shows a similar device as shown in Figs. I and II, but fixed to the wall or other convenient object. This device will be especially useful for public places to prevent the piece of soap from being mislaid or misappropriated. 30 represents the porous material incasing the soap, 31 denotes a seam for the purpose of confining the piece or pieces of soap to the lower end of the device; the soap and porous casing being of any suitable shape. 30' and 30'' show the continuation of casing 30 which is fastened to the wall or similar object at 32. 39 denotes a loop for hanging the soap out of the way when not in use. 33 represents some printing on the outer surface of case 30.

Fig. XII represents a longitudinal sec-

tional view of a piece of soap 26 enveloped in a porous case 27 from the surface of which extend rather long threads of thick soft wool 28, set closely to one another along the entire surface so that the whole casing has the appearance of a fluffy woolen ball; 29 is a loop for supporting this device when not in use, and has some printing done on its surface, as shown on the drawing. The advantage of this particular variety is the fact that the perfume of the soap or casing may be suited to the preference of its user, as it is merely necessary to perfume the outer woolly case with the particular perfume desired, or the perfume flavor may be changed quite frequently by simply washing the casing 27 and applying a different perfume; for this purpose it is preferable to have the inclosed soap unperfumed. An additional advantage of this variety is the fact that it holds a good deal of water at a time for which reason it can be used like a sponge. It is obvious that instead of the woolen casing some other material or a sponge may be used.

It will be gathered from the foregoing that in addition to the new and practical advantages ascribed to my novel device, the same presents also an economic feature, as the soap, when inclosed in the porous casing can be used conveniently even after it has been reduced to a small scale, as the inclosing case increases its bulk sufficiently, and supplies the friction necessary for using up every particle of soap. By employing a sufficiently coarse and porous casing material for the soap, my device will be also of great use for laundry purposes, and will involve a considerable saving by preventing the softened soap from being smeared in bulk on the piece to be laundered as, when using my device, the soap will have to be thoroughly dissolved before it can pass through the pores or openings of the casing. In addition to this, the employing of my device simplifies the shaving process, prevents ready substitution of one kind of soap for another, and will be also of great use for medical soaps and similar purposes.

I do not wish to restrict myself to the particular construction and arrangement shown, as I realize that some changes can be made in the details of construction without departing from the scope of the invention, but—

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. The combination of a cake of soap of any desired shape, inclosed in a pliable porous casing, the mouth or opening of the casing being closed permanently so as to prevent the piece of soap from slipping out of the casing, said casing being provided with means for decreasing its capacity while it remains closed.

2. The combination of a cake of soap of any desired shape, inclosed in a pliable porous casing, the mouth or opening of the casing being permanently closed so as to prevent the piece of soap from slipping out of the casing, said casing being provided with a draw-string or a plurality of draw-strings for decreasing its capacity while it remains closed.
3. As a new article of manufacture, a pliable porous casing, composed of interlaced friction producing strips inclosing a cake of soap of any desired shape, the casing surrounding the cake of soap closely, the mouth or opening of said casing being permanently closed.

New York, August 30, 1917.

MELANIE WOLF.

Witnesses:

FELIX WOLF,

CHARLOTTE WOLF.