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MASSAGING DEVICE

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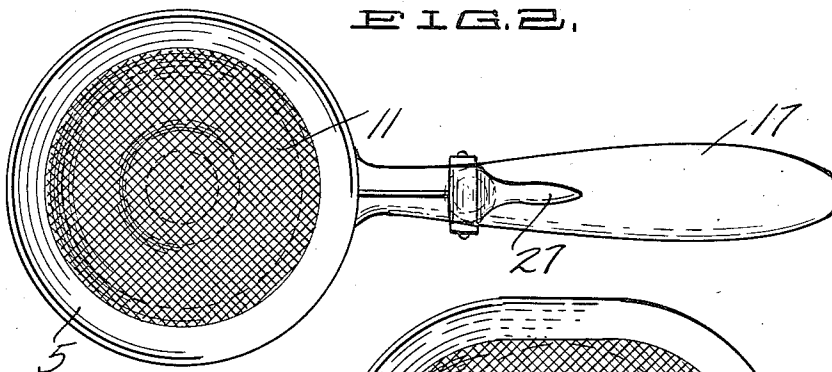
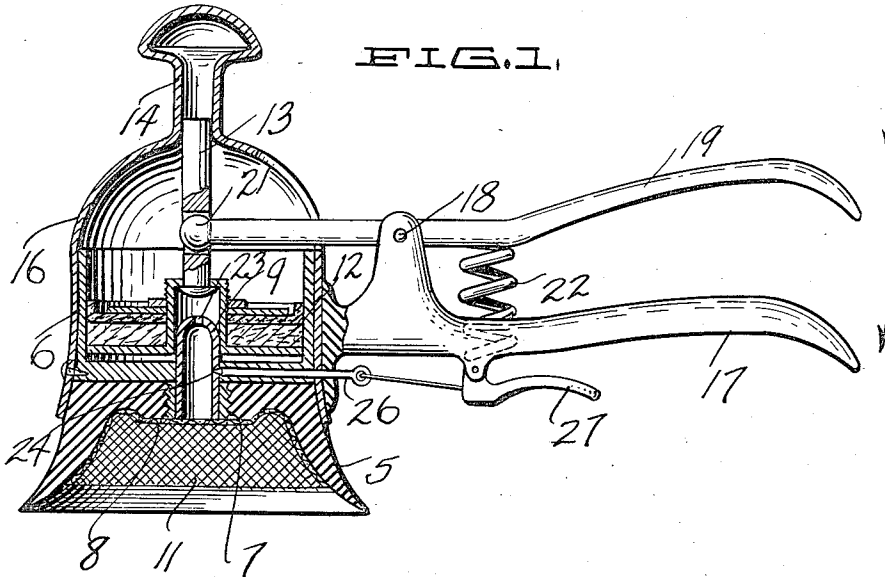


FIG. 2.

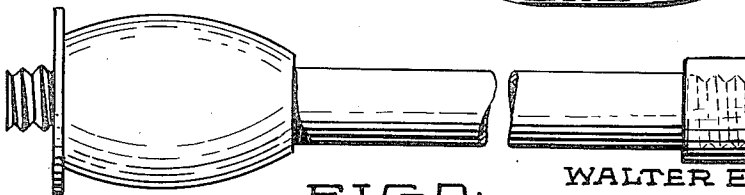
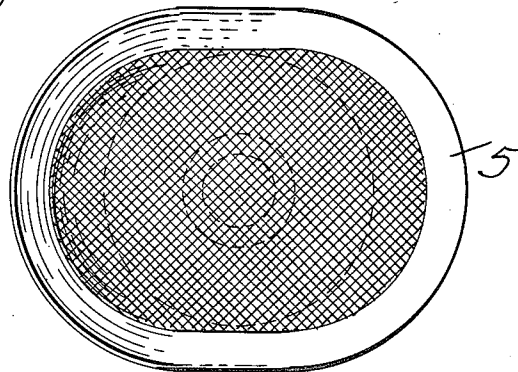


FIG. 3.

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## MASSAGING DEVICE

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## 1 Claim. (Cl. 128—38)

This invention relates to improvements in massaging devices.

The principal object of the invention is to produce a device which will create a positive suction within the massaging applicator.

A further object is to produce a device of this character which may be manipulated by hand.

A still further object is to produce a device which is economical to manufacture, light in weight and simple to use.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Fig. 1 is a vertical cross section of our device,

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of Fig. 1,

Fig. 3 is a modified form of the applicator, and Fig. 4 is an extension.

In massaging, it has been the general practice to employ a rubber cup or applicator which is forcibly brought into contact with the body and drawn away therefrom so as to produce a massaging effect. While this produces a pounding or working of the tissues it does not create any suction, which would tend to bring the blood toward the surface of the skin. Applicants have produced a device which will not only give a massaging effect but will also draw the blood toward the surface of the skin, thus invigorating the tissues in a beneficial manner.

In the accompanying drawing wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of our invention, the numeral 5 designates a rubber massage cup which is mounted upon the base of a cylinder 6. This cup has a threaded opening 7 which engages a threaded member 8 mounted upon a nipple 9 which extends through the bottom of the cylinder. A fabric lining 11 is formed within the cup, the same being porous so that suction may pass therethrough as will be later described. Slidable within the cylinder 6 is a built-up piston 12 which is connected to a guide rod 13 slidable in the reduced portion 14 of a casing 16. A handle 17 is connected to the casing 16 and has pivoted thereto, as at 18, an auxiliary handle 19 having a ball connection 21 with the guide

rod 13. A spring 22 tends to keep these handles 17 and 19 apart except when forcibly pressed together. The nipple 9 has a port 23 and a port 24. The port 24 is normally closed by a needle valve 26 moved by a release lever 27.

The modified form of cup shown in Fig. 3 is of the same construction as the cup 5 with the exception that it is of a different shape. The extension shown in Fig. 4 is employed when it is desired to move the cup further away from the operating mechanism in which event the cup 5 is unscrewed from the threaded member 8 and the extension is screwed thereto after which the cup is screwed to the bottom of the extension.

The operation of our device is as follows:

The applicator is applied to the skin and the handles 17 and 19 are pressed together. This causes the piston 12 to move away from the bottom of the cylinder thus creating a vacuum which is drawn through the port 23 and through the porous fabric 11, thus causing the vacuum to draw upon the skin of the person being manipulated upon. When it is desired to release the vacuum, the release handle 27 is actuated thus drawing the needle valve 26 from the port 24 and thus allowing atmospheric pressure to enter the cup.

It is to be understood that the forms of our invention herewith shown and described are to be taken as preferred example of the same and that various changes relative to the material, size, shape and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claim.

Having thus described our invention, we claim:—

In a device of the character described, a massage cup, a cylinder connected to said cup, a nipple extending between said cup and said cylinder, ports formed in said nipple, a piston surrounding one of said ports and slidable in said cylinder, means for moving said piston away from said cup to create a vacuum between said piston and said cup, and a needle valve closing the other of said ports during the period of vacuum in said device.

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