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E. FLAGG

NOSE WASHER

Filed March 7, 1923

Fig. 1.

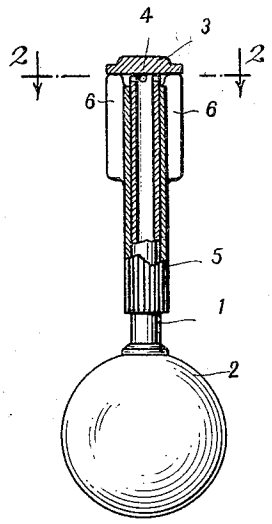
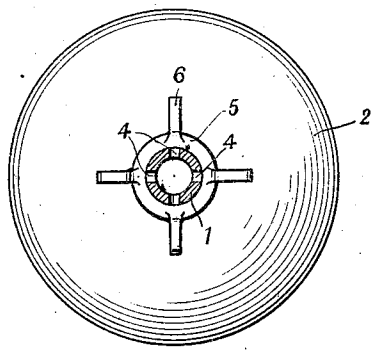


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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NOSE WASHER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST FLAGG, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Nose Washer, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to a device for washing the nose.

An object of the invention is to move disease germs from the nose.

A further object is to provide a simple and easily operable device for washing the nasal passages.

The invention is illustrated in the drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section through a portion of the device for washing the nose; and

Figure 2 is a horizontal section taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

The form of the invention shown in the drawings is a preferred form, although it is understood that modifications in the construction and arrangement of the parts and in the character of the materials used may be adopted without departing from the spirit of the invention.

We see all about us abundant proof that the human body can stand an immense amount of dirt with little apparent injury. There are many persons who do very little washing and yet live to old age. There is one place, however, which it is essential to cleanse to avoid risk of disease, and that is the very one which most people, otherwise neat about their person, never think of washing, viz, the interior of the nose. Scientists say that the air is at all times laden with germs and that these often become dangerous to health. Practically all the air we breathe enters the body through the nose, and a great part of the dust and germs with which the air is charged is deposited on the damp inner surfaces of the nostrils. These particles should be removed before they have time to multiply and spread to other parts. This can, in large part, be done by irrigation, but it is dangerous to snuff water up the nose very far because it is liable to enter tubes connected with the interior nasal passages and the ears and cause serious trouble.

This apparatus is designed to permit washing the inner walls of the nose but to prevent the danger of the water or cleansing fluid getting too far therewithin. It is intended to permit thorough cleansing of the lower part of the nostril. The device consists primarily of the tube 1, which may be made of any suitable material, such as rubber, to the lower end of which there is suitably fastened a rubber bulb 2. At the top of the inner tube 1 there is fastened a diaphragm or cap portion 3, preferably made of rubber, which may be considerably more flexible than the rubber of which the tube 1 is formed. This diaphragm or cap 3 is larger in diameter than the tube 1 and acts as a sort of protector plate within the nostrils to prevent any liquid from passing farther into the interior of the nostrils. The upper end of the tube 1 is provided with openings 4 in any desired number to permit liquid to be discharged from the tube therethrough by the usual action of the bulb 2.

As the liquid is discharged from the inner tube, near the end thereof beneath the cap or diaphragm 3, it comes in contact with the inner walls of the nostrils and tends to wash these surfaces. This washing and cleansing action is enhanced considerably by the provision of a second tube 5, preferably of hard rubber, which is rotatable around the inner tube 1 and can be slid longitudinally therealong. At its upper end this outer tube 5 is provided with a plurality of ribs 6, somewhat leaflike, which project at a plurality of points around the surface of the tube 5, and being made preferably of flexible material, such as soft rubber, will gently rub or scrape the inner surface of the interior of the nose to loosen or remove material therefrom, which can be carried out by the washing action of the fluid, as above mentioned. By reason of the fact that the outer tube 5 with the leaves or scrapers 6 can be slid along the inner tube, the amount of surface of the interior of the nostrils which can be properly rubbed or scraped is increased.

The operation of this device is exceedingly simple. The tube 2 is filled with the proper quantity of washing fluid, which may be water; the end of the tube 1 is inserted into the interior of the nose the proper distance so that the cap or diaphragm 3 obstructs the nostril to prevent the liquid from going too far therein; the bulb is then pressed and the water or liquid is discharged through the end and can proceed in no di-

rection except down and out through the lower opening of the nostril. While this is taking place, the other hand of the person operating the device can manipulate the outer tube to cause the scrapers or leaves 6 to gently rub the inner surface of the nostril, whereby the above-mentioned action takes place. By sliding the outer tube up and down along the inner tube while the leaves or scrapers 6 are being rotated, the entire inner surface of the nostril can be cleaned.

It is found that by this operation, which may be repeated several times a day, a large percentage of the impurities which enter the body through the nose may be flushed out and a serious menace to health thus disposed of. Experience also has proven that this operation obviates the use of the handkerchief, which in most instances is a considerable bother.

What I claim is:—

1. A nose washing device which includes a tubular member extending into the nose, a cap or diaphragm on the end thereof to stop up the nasal passage, said member having passages therein beneath the cap to permit discharge of cleansing fluid therethrough, and means associated with the tubular member and movable to scrape the inner nasal surfaces whereby matter thereon will be removed and washed out by the cleansing fluid.

2. A nose scraping device which includes a tubular member to extend into the nose, means on the end of the tubular member to stop up the nasal passage and prevent the access of water therebeyond, an outer tubular member mounted on the first tubular member, and means on said outer tubular member to be moved therewith to scrape the inner walls of the nostril to remove matter therefrom.

3. A nose washing device which includes a tubular member to be inserted within the nose, a cap on the end thereof to stop up the nasal passage, said tubular member having a plurality of apertures therein beneath the cap, and a second tubular member surrounding the first tubular member and rotatable and slidable thereon, and a plurality of scraping elements or leaves on the surface of the outer tubular member and movable therewith to scrape the inner surface of the nostril, whereby the matter so removed may be washed out by the fluid discharged from the inner tubular member.

ERNEST FLAGG.