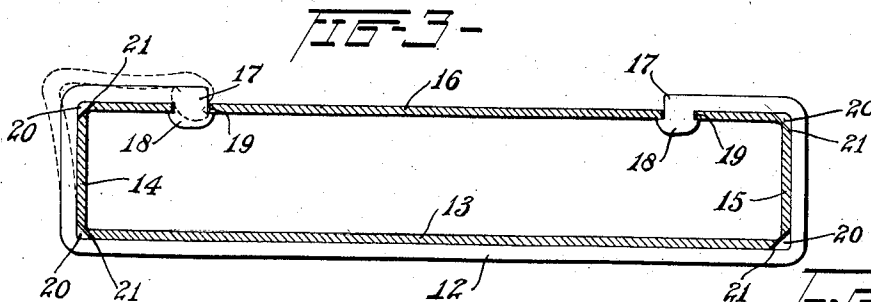
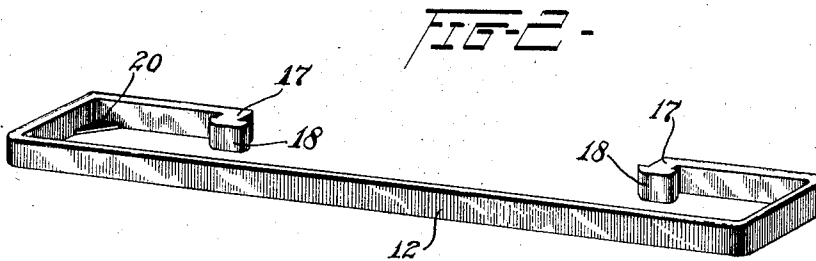
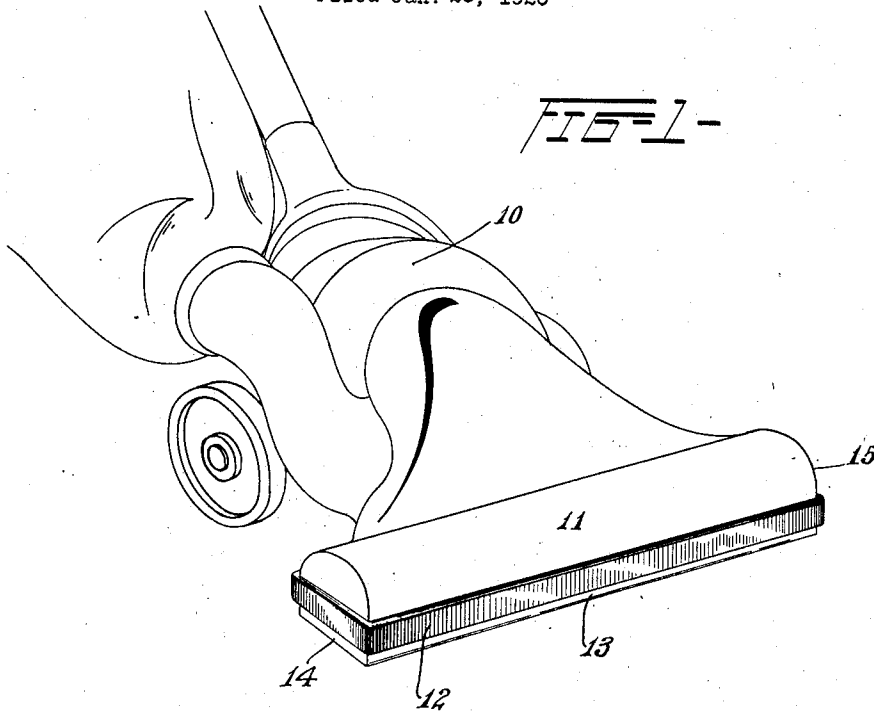


Dec. 11, 1928.

J. R. GAMMETER
FENDER FOR SWEEPERS
Filed Jan. 28, 1925

1,695,246



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FENDER FOR SWEEPERS.

Application filed January 23, 1925. Serial No. 5,257.

This invention relates to resilient fenders or bumpers for vacuum sweepers, floor polishers, and the like, which shall prevent damage to walls and household articles when such contrivances are moved rapidly over a floor and caused to pass contiguous to baseboards, table legs, etc. It has heretofore been proposed to use a tubular fender for such articles and to secure the same in place by means of a cord disposed interiorly of the fender and passing around the article, but such fenders have not been satisfactory in service and are limited in their application to articles which can be embraced by the tubular fender in substantially a single plane.

The main object of my invention is to provide a resilient fender for vacuum sweepers, and like devices, which shall embrace the exposed sides and corners of the nozzle, or other floor-contacting portion, and shall be provided with means for anchoring its respective ends in the rear or other relatively unexposed side thereof, thus making it adaptable for application to devices having the rear sides of their nozzles, or floor-contacting portions, obstructed by supporting structures, flared off-takes, and the like.

Of the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a vacuum sweeper provided with a resilient fender embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the resilient fender, detached from the sweeper.

Fig. 3 is a transverse section through the sweeper nozzle showing the manner of securing the fender to the sweeper.

Referring to the drawings, I show at 10 a vacuum sweeper, which may be any of the numerous sweepers now on the market, provided with the usual elongated nozzle 11, open at the bottom to receive litter, dirt, dust, etc., from the floor as it moves thereover. A resilient fender 12, preferably in the form of a relatively thick and wide molded-rubber strap, embraces the exposed faces, namely the front face 13 and side faces 14, 15 of the nozzle 11, and terminates in the rear face 16 thereof. Each of the ends of the fender 12 is turned inwardly at 17 and is formed with a knob or button 18. The rear face 16 of the nozzle 11 is provided with two openings 19, so formed and disposed with relation to the fender 12 that the buttons 18 may be anchored therein to hold the fender 12 taut about the exposed faces 13, 14, 15 of the nozzle 11. The

manner of locking the buttons 18 in the slots 19 is indicated in broken lines in Fig. 3. Where the nozzle 11 is rectangular, as shown, the several corners of the fender 12 are formed with diagonal webs 20 which seat in cooperating kerfs 21 in the nozzle 11, the arrangement being such that, when the buttons 18 and webs 20 are disposed in the slots 19 and kerfs 21, respectively, of the nozzle 11, the fender will not be displaced by striking the base-boards, table-legs, etc.

The fender 12 is preferably of a full-molded construction built to size and shape of the nozzle with which it is to be associated. It is obvious that the nozzle may have rounded ends or may be ellipsoidal in conformation, and in any such case the fender should be molded to a size and shape which will fit tightly about the nozzle. Whatever the shape of the nozzle, the fender in accordance with the present invention embraces the exposed faces of the nozzle and is anchored in the rear face, for convenience of attachment, relatively near the outer edges thereof. My improved fender is thus adapted for attachment to nozzles having projections on the rear faces, can be easily and securely applied, and, by manipulation from within the nozzle, can be readily removed, should occasion require.

The device is susceptible of modifications within the scope of my invention, and I do not wholly limit my claims to the exact embodiment here shown.

I claim:

1. The combination with a sweeper having a generally rectangular floor-contacting nozzle, of a vulcanized rubber fender therefor shaped before application to the nozzle substantially to conform in size and contour with the exposed faces of the nozzle wall, means for anchoring the ends of the fender in the rear wall of the nozzle, and means at the corners of said fender and of said walls for preventing displacement of the fender.
2. The combination with a sweeper having a generally rectangular floor-contacting nozzle, of a resilient fender therefor shaped before application to the nozzle to embrace the exposed faces only of the nozzle, the ends of said fender being provided with knobs, and its corners with diagonal webs, the rear face of the nozzle having openings in which said knobs are anchored and its corners provided with channels in which said webs are seated.

3. In a fender for a sweeper nozzle, a vul-
canized rubber strip molded during vulcani-
zation to substantially a shape and size con-
forming with the contour of the front and
5 side walls of the nozzle, the extremities of
the strip being provided with inwardly pro-
truding portions adapted for anchoring the
strip to the nozzle.

4. A vulcanized-rubber fender of generally
C-shaped conformation having substantially 10
square corners formed with diagonal webs,
the extremities of the fender being provided
with knobs for securing the fender in place.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
hand this 26th day of January, 1925.

JOHN R. GAMMETER.