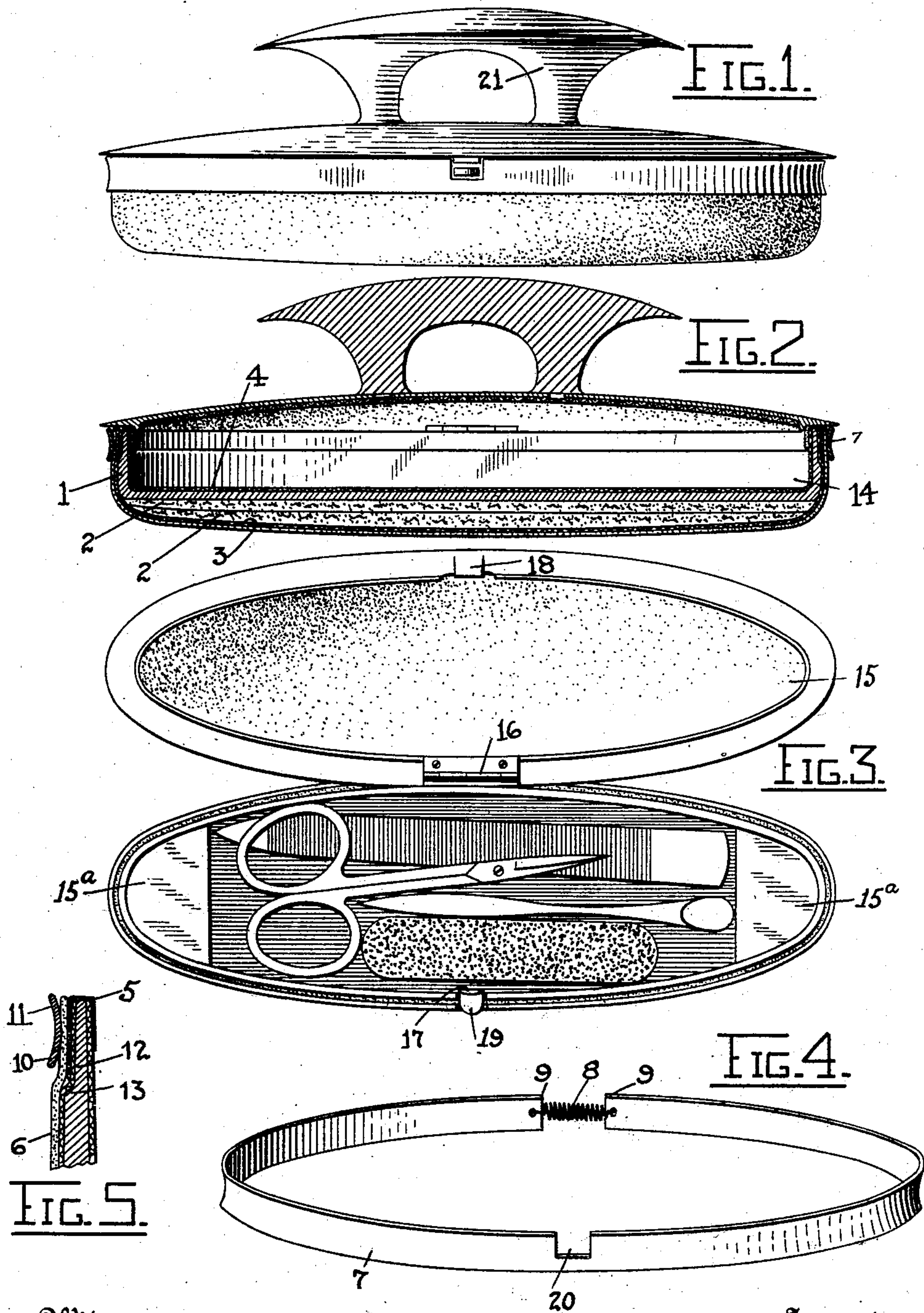


H. STRAUS.
TOILET ARTICLE.
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914,682.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOILET ARTICLE.

No. 914,682.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HANS STRAUS, having declared my intention of becoming a citizen of the United States, and residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toilet Articles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in an article for toilet or manicuring use and consists of a finger nail polisher and buffer of such novel construction that its utility is greatly increased without adding materially to its cost.

In the manufacture of finger nail polishers it is known that, within certain limits, the larger the polisher is made, the more efficient it is. When, however, they are made for travelers' kits the compactness desired is necessarily a hindrance to the use of a large polisher.

It is, therefore, my object to produce a polisher which in itself serves as a receptacle for other manicuring utensils, such as scissors, cuticle knives, files, and the like, so that substantially the entire body of the polisher less the thickness of the walls is utilized as a receptacle; conserving space and providing a polisher of desired size as well as increasing its utility by providing a unitary article. A polisher of this kind may have all the advantages of the large size and provide a very handy and compact article useful to travelers.

I have pointed out the most advantageous use of my invention, although it is useful to others than those traveling.

A further object of my invention is to produce a polisher in which the polishing covering material, such as chamois, may be readily removed, and still be properly stretched and held in place during use.

The details of one embodiment of my invention will appear hereinafter.

In the drawings forming a part of this application: Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved polisher; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal cross-sectional view of the same showing the large sized chamber for utensils; Fig. 3 is a plan view showing the lid open; Fig. 4 is a detail showing the extensible band for stretching and holding the outer layer of polishing material on the body; and Fig. 5 is

a sectional detail showing the band and recessed rim in coöperative relation.

In the preferred form of my invention I provide a base portion 1, which may be made of aluminum, or any other suitable material which should be stiff and inflexible so as to present a firm foundation for the polishing material and not allow the contents of the polisher to interfere with and distort the polishing surface. This base portion 1 is oval or oblong in shape, suitable for polishing the nails and may be of such size as to be efficient for polishing. Next to this non-flexible base portion 1 I provide one or more soft foundation layers 2 of suitable material, such as felt. The foundation layers are held upon the base portion by a covering 3 of polishing material which is secured to the base of the polisher preferably by gluing. The foundation layers serve to form a firm foundation for the removable cover and provide more friction than the smooth hard substance of the base. They prevent puckering and displacement of the removable cover when the polisher is being rapidly vibrated across the nails. The inside of the base portion is preferably provided with a suitable lining 4 which may be of silk, plush or the like. A strip 5 of binding material passes around the edge of the base so as to neatly finish the appearance of the edge and secure the edges of the lining and covering in place.

Means are provided for removably securing a polishing cover 6 to the foundation layers. In the best embodiment of the invention, I provide a band 7 which I prefer to make of metal and which is extensible in order to stretch and hold the cover 6 in place. Suitable means are provided for making the band extensible. In the form of the invention illustrated I provide a spring 8 which connects the ends 9 of the band and draws them toward each other so that when the band is applied over the polishing material, it secures the latter snugly to the body of the polisher. Suitable means are provided to prevent the edges of the band from digging into the cover which tends to break the delicate finger nails of persons who have occasion to replace the cover.

In the best embodiment of the invention the band 7 is curved in cross-section so as to

provide one or more curved edges 10, 11 that project from the cover, thus permitting the finger nails of the operator to be easily inserted beneath the band and preventing the edge of the band from digging into the cover.

Suitable means are provided for holding the cover taut and securing a tight fit around its free edge. I recess the edge of the base as at 12 for this purpose, thus producing a shoulder 13 over which the cover is tightly stretched by the action of the band 7.

The base of the polisher is hollow and in the best embodiment of the invention consists of a thin walled metal shell shaped so as to provide an interior chamber 14 which serves as a receptacle to loosely receive manicuring utensils such as scissors and the like as shown in Fig. 3, as well as for extra sheets of the polishing material and removable boxes 15^a for polishing paste. As the size of the base of the polisher is made necessary by the polisher as such, the utilization of the entire interior as a receptacle increases the utility of the article without increasing its size and by adding little, if anything, to the cost. The size of the hollow chamber is substantially equal to that of the base. The chamber is provided with a single mouth extending lengthwise of the chamber throughout its length and width, so as to afford a large opening of easy access for filling the article with tools.

The removable extensible band lies below the plane of the edge of the top, contiguous to the edge, and coöperates with the top to hide the edge. The band coöperates with the upper portion only of the base, thus leaving part of the side of the base exposed and covered with polishing material.

As a means for providing a cover for the receptacle I have utilized the upper portion 15 of the polisher for that purpose, which, in my preferred form, is secured to the base by a hinge 16, so that the parts are always together. The side of the cover opposite the hinge is provided with a finger catch, and a spring-pressed tongue 17, which engages a catch 18 on the cover. A finger push piece 19 extends through the base and by pressing this the catch is released so that the cover may be opened. The notch 20 of the band may be passed over the push piece 19 for the purpose of further preventing the displacement of the securing band 7.

As will be seen the cover 15 is provided with the usual handle 21 which may be formed integral therewith.

From the above it will be seen that without adding to the bulk or to the cost, materially, of a polisher, an article of great utility is produced, from which the polishing material may be removed and renewed and at the same time providing efficient means for se-

curing the polishing material and without the liability of puckering.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A nail polisher and buffer having its base adapted to carry a sheet of polishing material, said base being shaped so as to provide a hollow chamber within it with a mouth extending lengthwise of said base, the size of the chamber being substantially equal to that of the base, said chamber being adapted to loosely receive a plurality of manicuring utensils and a top extending lengthwise of said chamber to form a cover therefor.

2. A nail polisher and buffer having a thin walled base shaped to provide a hollow chamber within said base, which is adapted to serve as a receptacle to loosely receive manicuring utensils, the size of the chamber being substantially equal to that of the base, said chamber provided with a single mouth extending throughout the length of said chamber, a sheet of polishing material on said base portion and arranged about the bottom and sides of said chamber, and a thin solid top adapted to cover said chamber, said top being provided with a handle.

3. A nail polisher and buffer having a thin-walled, substantially oval metal base shaped to provide a hollow chamber within said base, which is adapted to serve as a receptacle to loosely receive a plurality of manicuring utensils of different kinds, the size of the chamber being substantially equal to that of the base, an extensible band for removably securing a sheet of polishing material about the bottom and sides of said base, and a top hinged to said base and adapted to close the said chamber, said top being provided with a handle.

4. A nail polisher and buffer comprising a base, a removable sheet of polishing material adapted to form a polishing surface for the sides and bottom of the base, a top for said base and a removable extensible band lying below the plane of the edge of the top and adapted to coact with the upper portion only of the side of the base when clamping the sheet.

5. A nail polisher and buffer comprising a base, a removable sheet of material forming a polishing surface for the sides and bottom of the base, a top for said base and a removable extensible band lying below the plane of the edge of the top coöperating with the top to hide the edge of the sheet, the ends of the band being connected by a spring, whereby the band is adapted to coact with the upper portion only of the base to clamp the sheet.

6. A nail polisher and buffer comprising a base, having a bottom and sides, the upper portion of the sides of the base being pro-

vided with a recess to receive the edge of a sheet of polishing material, a top for said base and a removable extensible band lying below the plane of the edge of the top and adapted to co-act with the recess when clamping the sheet.

7. A nail polisher comprising a base a removable polishing covering for said base and an extensible band with a curved edge portion for securing said sheet of polishing material to said base portion.

8. A nail polisher comprising a base, a removable polishing covering for said base and an extensible band curved in cross section for securing said sheet of polishing material to said base portion.

9. A nail polisher comprising a base provided with a recess along the edge adjacent to the rim, a removable sheet of polishing material carried by said base and a band with curved edges adapted to slide over said sheet of polishing material to secure said material in said recess.

10. A polisher, for the purpose described, comprising a base, a removable polishing covering for said base and a band for securing said covering to said base, and having a curved edge, said band being provided with a spring adapted to draw the ends of the band toward each other to tighten the band on the said cover.

11. A polisher, for the purpose described, comprising a base, a removable polishing covering for said base, and a band for securing said covering to said base, said band comprising a thin strip with curved edges and being provided with a spring adapted to draw the ends of the band toward each other to tighten the band on said cover.

12. A polisher for the purpose set forth, comprising a base portion adapted to serve as a polisher, and provided with a chamber, a cover for said chamber, hinged to the body, a catch on the body for holding the cover and provided with a projecting member, a re-

movable covering for said polisher, a band for securing the covering on the base and provided with a spring for drawing the ends of said band toward each other, said band being provided with a recess which is adapted to be passed over the said catch projecting member.

13. A nail polisher and buffer comprising an inflexible oblong base portion provided with a soft foundation layer, another and removable covering for said base, a top for said base, and a removable extensible band engaging the edge of said covering, said edge lying between said band and the upper portion only of the side of said base, when the band is in place, the upper edge of said band being contiguous to said top to hide said edge.

14. A buffer having a bottom and sides, the upper part of the sides being substantially parallel, a top with a projecting edge, an extensible band adapted to slide over said bottom onto said sides and against the projecting edge of the top, when the band is slipped in place.

15. A nail polisher and buffer having an oval base adapted to carry a foundation layer and a removable sheet of polishing material, said base having a single hollow chamber within it, whose cross sectional area is substantially equal to that of the base and is provided with a single mouth extending throughout the length and width of the base, said single chamber being adapted to loosely receive a plurality of manicure utensils, and a thin-walled top extending lengthwise of said chamber to form a cover therefor.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HANS STRAUS.

Witnesses:

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WM. F. BISSING.