

H. W. YOUNG.
SANITARY COMMODE SEAT.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 21, 1908.

919,512.

Patented Apr. 27, 1909.

FIG. 1.

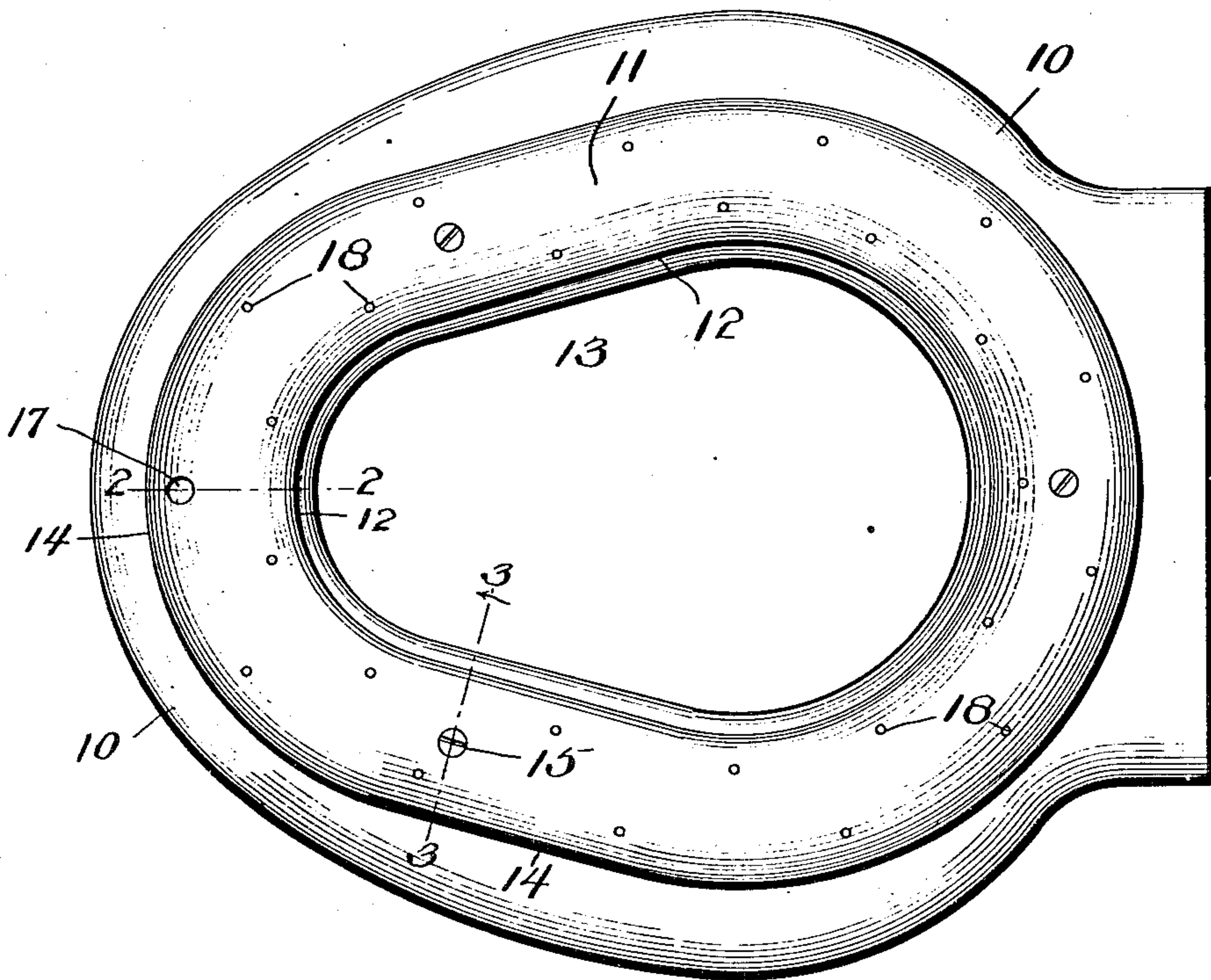


FIG. 2.

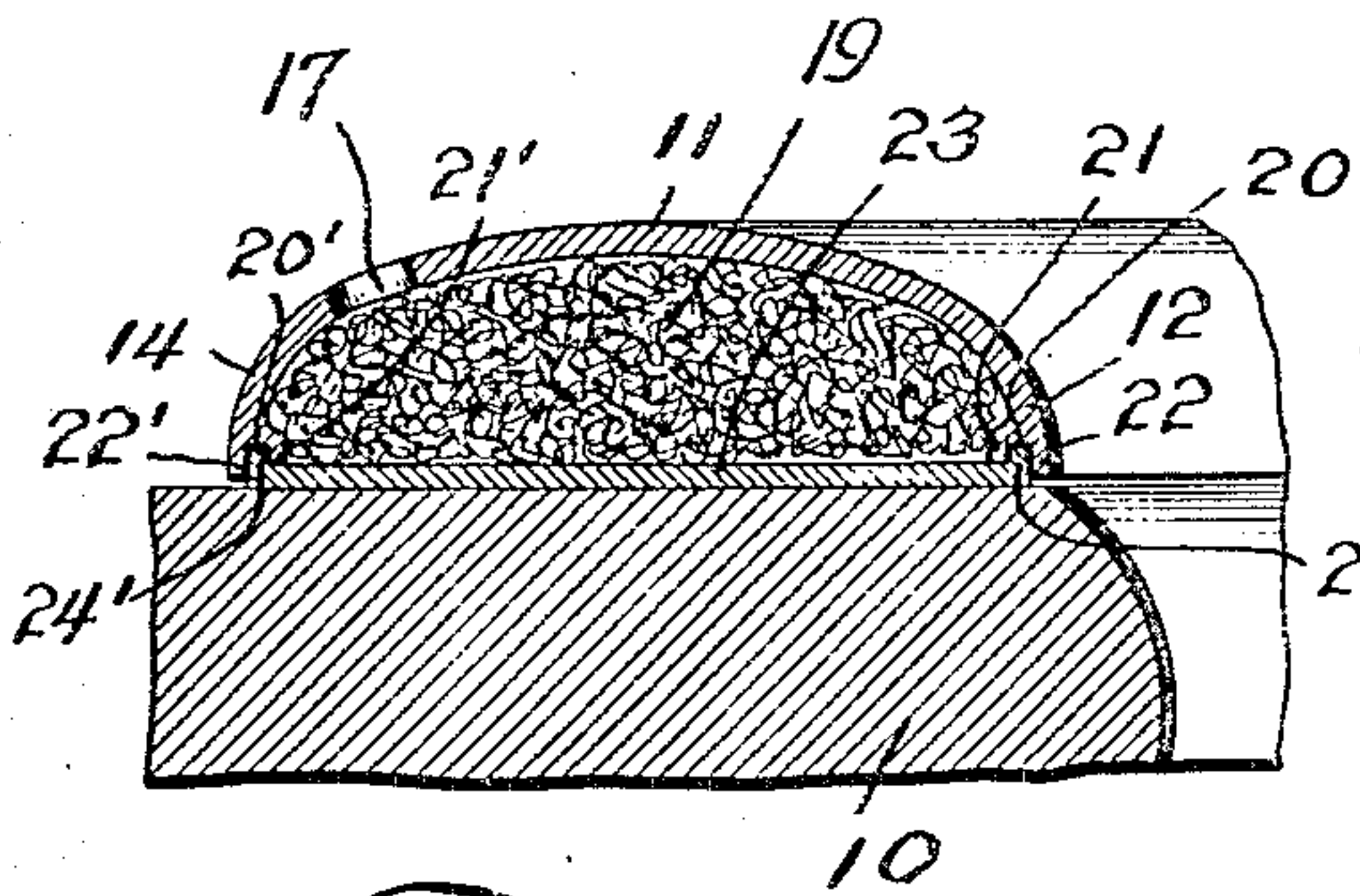
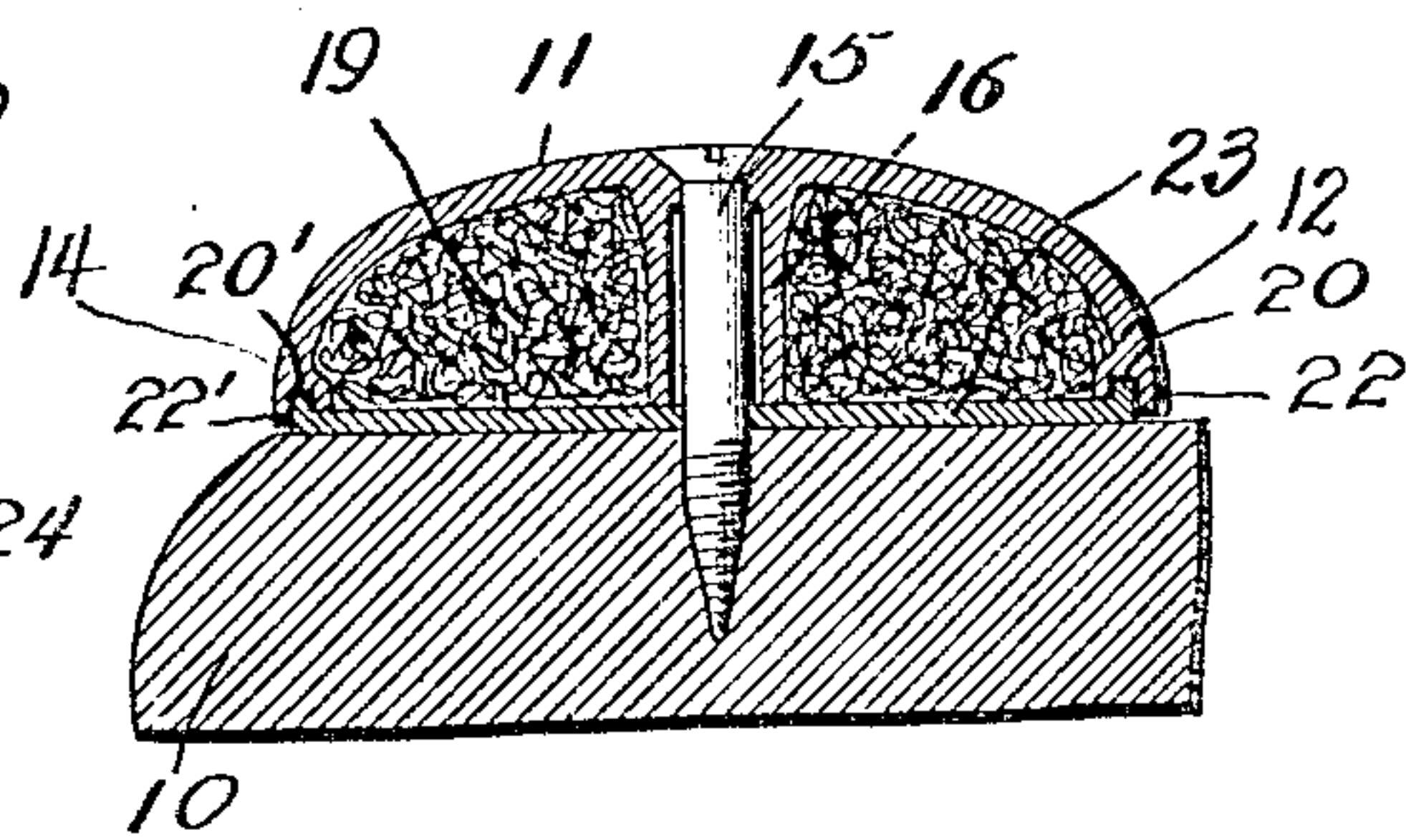


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES:

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HARRY WILBUR YOUNG, OF ELMHURST, CALIFORNIA.

SANITARY COMMODE-SEAT.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed August 21, 1908. Serial No. 449,617.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY WILBUR YOUNG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Elmhurst, in the county of Alameda and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sanitary Commode-Seats, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to apparatus or devices used in connection with toilet seats, having special reference to a means for disinfecting such apparatus.

The invention more specifically stated has reference to such devices employed in connection with public or quasi-public conveniences, where there is more or less likelihood of contamination through diseases and otherwise.

I am aware that there have been devices proposed for the same general purpose as my present invention, but the earlier efforts have been more or less complicated and otherwise have not proved satisfactory in practical operation.

For a full understanding of the construction of the invention, including its advantages, reference is to be had to the following detail description and to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the device applied, and Figs. 2 and 3 are cross sectional details on the corresponding lines of Fig. 1.

Throughout the following description and on the several figures of the drawings similar parts are referred to by like reference characters.

I have indicated at 10 a conventional form of toilet or commode seat. In this connection it is to be understood that the invention is applicable to any usual or well known form or construction of such seats, the structure which constitutes the invention will of course be made in form and design to adapt it for attachment to the various forms of seats now in use.

The main body of the attachment, indicated at 11, has a general form in plan to correspond with the form of the seat 10 to which it is to be applied, and surrounds the usual opening in the seat, lying with its inner edge 12 at a slight distance from the periphery of such opening, indicated at 13. The body 11, as viewed in cross section, is of a hollow semi-elliptical form, the ellipse being comparatively flat, so that the device has a comparatively small thickness or elevation with

respect to its width. I have found in practice that a width of approximately three inches and an elevation of about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch constitute very satisfactory dimensions, but it is to be understood that these dimensions are merely suggestive and are by no means obligatory. The outer edge 14 will of course lie within the outer periphery of the seat 10. The body of the attachment 11 may be made of any suitable rigid material such as hard rubber, aluminum, xylonite, or other suitable metal, it being requisite that the attachment will present a neat appearance and be sufficiently substantial in strength, without being unnecessarily heavy, for the purposes for which it is intended.

As indicated in the drawings both margins 12 and 14 of the shell are provided with grooves or rabbets 20 and 20', respectively. The groove 20 is formed by flanges 21 and 22, and the groove 20' by flanges 21' and 22'. The flanges 21 and 21' lie adjacent to the interior of the shell and are narrower than the outer complementary flanges 22 and 22'.

The body 11 is secured to the seat 10 by any suitable means, those indicated herein being a plurality of screws 15 having their heads counter-sunk in the upper surface of the body 11 and extending therefrom through the body and into the seat 10. In order to substantially brace and strengthen the body 11 at the points of attachment of the screws I provide hollow members or stanchions 16 which if desired may be made integral with the inner surface of the body 11 and extend downwardly toward the upper surface of the seat 10, and through which the screws pass as indicated in Fig. 3. It will be understood that as many of those fastening devices as may be required may be employed.

At any suitable point, preferably near the front outer edge of the body 11 is provided any suitable form of filling opening 17. The body 11 furthermore throughout its entire extent is provided with a large number of small perforations 18 extending through the shell of the body.

Before the device is attached to the seat the hollow thereof is filled with some suitable fibrous material 19 such as sea island cotton or any other material which will constitute a means for absorbing or holding for a considerable length of time a disinfectant liquid, it being the design of this invention in practical operation to employ for this purpose any suitable or well known germicide which will

not be injurious to the structure of the apparatus nor to the person which may come in contact therewith, and yet at the same time be an effective deodorizer and disinfectant without any unpleasant odors. In practice it is usually desirable to fill the shell with the absorbent material at the factory, and in order to provide a complete closure for the shell, whereby it may be manufactured and sold as a complete unit so as to be applied to any standard make of seat, there is provided a gasket or closure plate 23, having flanges 24 and 24' which fit in the aforesaid grooves or rabbets 20 and 20', respectively, and where they are permanently secured, as by cementing. The annular flanged plate 23 may be made of any suitable material, such as rubber, and serves not only to retain the packing 19 during transportation and handling of the device, but provides an impervious bottom for the shell so that no liquid disinfectant can leak out upon the seat 10. Furthermore, by the provision of such closure, the device may be attached to any seat without the exercise of extreme care in fitting the same. It will be understood, however, that this invention contemplates the omission of the plate 23 and the attachment of the shell directly to the seat. After the device is assembled as hereinbefore set forth the liquid disinfectant may be introduced into the interior thereof by pouring into the opening 17, the seat at such times being elevated if necessary for such purpose. The fibrous material 19 will absorb and retain such liquid for a considerable length of time, depending of course upon the nature thereof and the usage. The fumes from the liquid used will escape through the perforations 18 and will thoroughly disinfect the atmosphere of the room in which the device is used. It will be understood of course that the liquid supply for the device may be replenished from time to time as may be necessary.

From the foregoing description and illustration it will be apparent that the device is exceedingly simple in construction, neat in appearance, and particularly well adapted for the purpose for which it is intended.

The device is found to be especially desirable for use in connection with the toilet apparatus of railway cars, especially Pullman cars.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:

1. In combination with a toilet seat, a disinfecting device comprising a hollow semi-elliptical rigid shell surrounding the opening of the seat and having a plurality of perforations extending therethrough and also having a filling opening near one edge, a packing of fibrous absorbent material within said shell, and a plurality of securing devices passed through said shell and into the seat, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of a wooden toilet seat having the usual opening, a rigid annular hollow device surrounding said opening with its inner edge slightly spaced from said opening and in contact with the seat, a fibrous absorbent packing for said device surrounding the said opening, the said device being provided with numerous small perforations throughout its extent and being provided further near its front outer edge with a filling opening proximate to the seat, a plurality of rigid thimbles within the hollow device extending from the interior surface thereof to the seat, and securing devices passed through said device and said thimbles into the seat for securing the parts together.

3. The hereindescribed shell for a toilet seat comprising an annular member of flattened elliptical contour in cross section and composed of hard rigid material, said member being provided throughout its extent with numerous small perforations extending through the body thereof and being provided in the front portion with a filling opening, substantially as set forth.

4. The hereindescribed toilet seat attachment comprising a rigid annular shell, semi-elliptical in cross section, and provided with numerous perforations throughout its curved surface, there being provided also a rabbet in each of the margins of the shell, an annular closure plate for the bottom of the shell having flanges secured in said rabbets, and a fibrous packing in the interior of the shell, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HARRY WILBUR YOUNG.

Witnesses:

JEAN GUY,
CARL PHILIPPI.