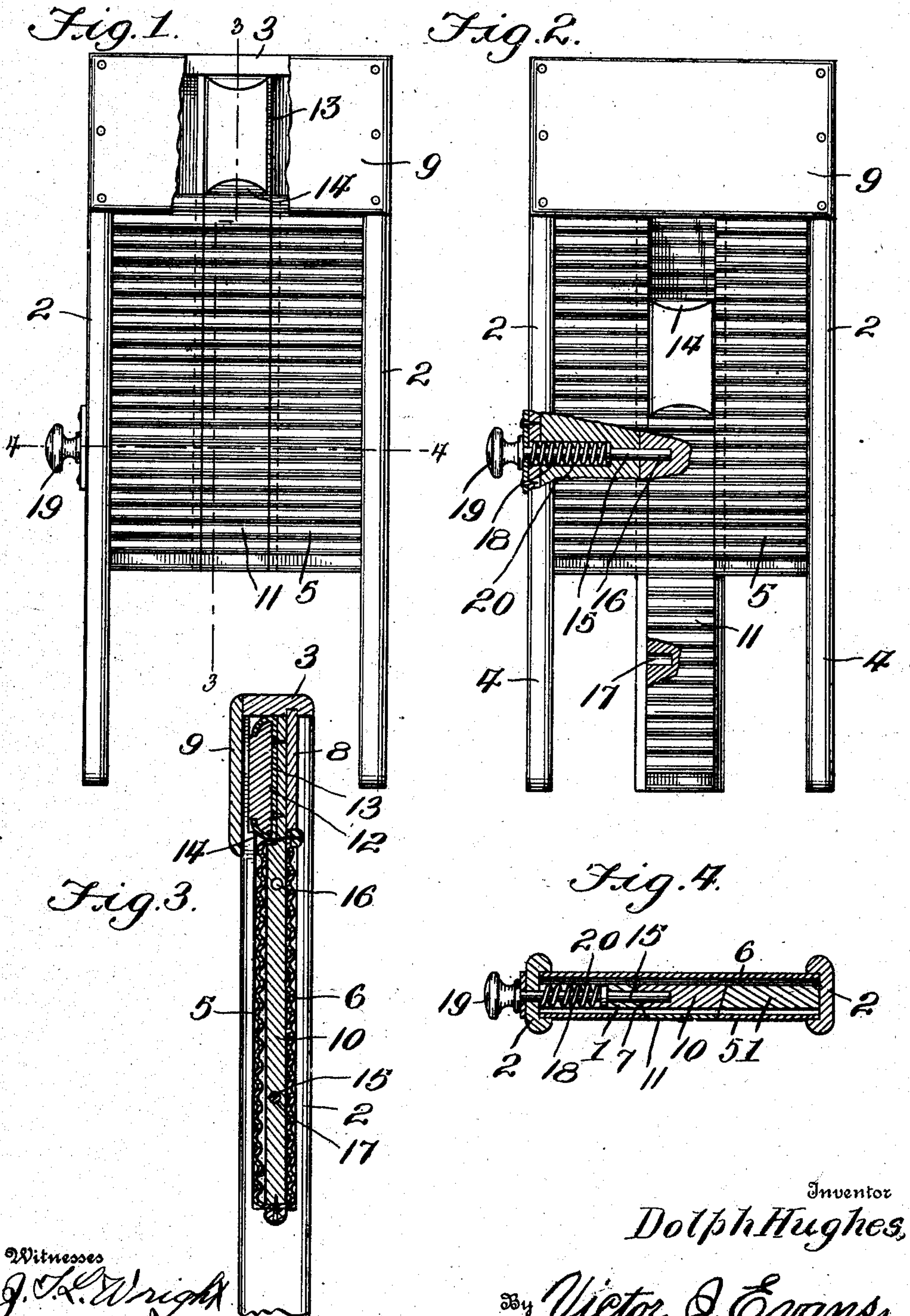


D. HUGHES.
WASHBOARD.

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924,466.

Patented June 8, 1909.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DOLPH HUGHES, OF JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE.

WASHBOARD.

No. 924,466.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DOLPH HUGHES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Johnson City, in the county of Washington and State of Tennessee, have invented new and useful Improvements in Washboards, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in wash boards and its primary object is the provision of a device of this character with a soap holder which is adapted to be moved into and held in operative or inoperative position. When the soap holder is in operative position the clothes will be soaped during their movement over the rubbing surface of the wash board, while when the soap holder is in inoperative position the clothes will not be soaped during such movement and the soap will be protected from the water thrown upon the wash board during the rubbing of the clothes.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a wash board which is simple, durable and efficient, and which may be manufactured and sold at a comparatively low cost.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of the construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a wash board constructed in accordance with my invention, the housing strip being broken away to disclose the inoperative position of the soap holder, Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, the soap holder being shown in operative position, Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the plane indicated by the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, and, Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken on the plane indicated by the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawing by the reference numerals, 1 designates the body, 2 the sides, and 3 the top of my improved wash board. The sides 2 are secured to the side edges of the body 1 and extend below the lower end edge thereof to provide supporting legs 4. The top 3 is secured to the upper end edge of the body 1 and to the upper ends of the sides 2. The wash board is provided with rubbing surfaces 5 and 6, and with a centrally located and longitudinally extending dove-tailed groove 7 which opens out through the rubbing surface 5. A plain board 8 is located above the rubbing surface 6 and is se-

cured in applied position in any suitable manner. A housing board 9 is secured to the top 3 and sides 2 at a point above the rubbing surface 5. As the housing board 9 is secured to the top and sides of the wash board it is spaced from the upper end of the body of the wash board. A dove-tailed member 10 is slidably mounted in the groove 7, and its outer surface is provided with a rubbing section 11 which is disposed within the plane of the rubbing surface 5.

A soap holder 12 is secured to the outer surface of and at a point adjacent the upper end of the member 10. The soap holder 12 preferably comprises a back plate 13 provided at its upper and lower edges with curved soap retaining lips 14, the sides of the soap holder being fully open to permit the cake of soap to be inserted in the holder.

The member 10 is adapted to be adjusted to place the soap holder in operative or in inoperative position. When the soap holder is in operative position it is located about centrally of the rubbing surface 5, while when it is in its inoperative position it is located in rear of the housing board 9. A bolt 15 is adapted to engage in either a socket 16 or a socket 17 to secure the soap holder in operative or inoperative position, said sockets being located in one side edge of the member 10. The bolt 15 is slidably mounted in a recess 18 formed in the body 1 and is provided with an operating head 19 located externally at one of its sides 2. The bolt is normally held in active position by means of a coil spring 20.

The soap holder is normally secured in inoperative position. When it is desired to use the soap carried by the holder, the bolt 15 is withdrawn from the socket 17, after which the member 10 is moved to place the soap holder in operative position. When the soap holder is in operative position, the bolt 15 engages in the socket 16 to secure the holder in such position against accidental movement. When the soap holder is in operative position, clothes moved over the rubbing surface 5 will be soaped, while when the soap holder is in inoperative position the clothes moved over the said surface will not be soaped and the soap will be protected from water thrown upon the board during the rubbing of clothes.

It should be apparent from the above description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings that I provide a wash

board in the use of which clothes may be soaped during the rubbing thereof, one which is simple, durable, and efficient and one which may be manufactured and sold at
5 a comparatively low cost.

Changes in the form, proportions and minor details of construction may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of
10 the advantages of the invention.

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

1. A wash board comprising a body provided with a rubbing surface, said body having a groove opening out through the rubbing surface, a member slidably mounted in the groove, a rubbing section secured to the member, a soap holder secured to the member, and means carried by the body for engagement with the member, said means being adapted to secure the member in adjusted position.
15 20

2. A wash board comprising a body provided with a rubbing surface, said body having a groove opening out through the rubbing
25

surface, a housing board secured to the body, a member adjustably mounted in the groove, a rubbing section secured to the member, a soap holder secured to the member, the adjustment of the member positioning the soap holder in rear of the housing board or centrally of the rubbing surface, and means carried by the body for engagement with the member, said means being adapted to secure the member in its adjusted position.
30 35

3. A wash board comprising a body having a groove and provided with a rubbing surface, a member slidably mounted in the groove, a soap holder secured to the member, and means carried by the wash board for engagement with the member, said means being adapted to secure the member against movement.
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In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

DOLPH HUGHES.

Witnesses:

W. P. HULL,
CAL. HOFMAN.