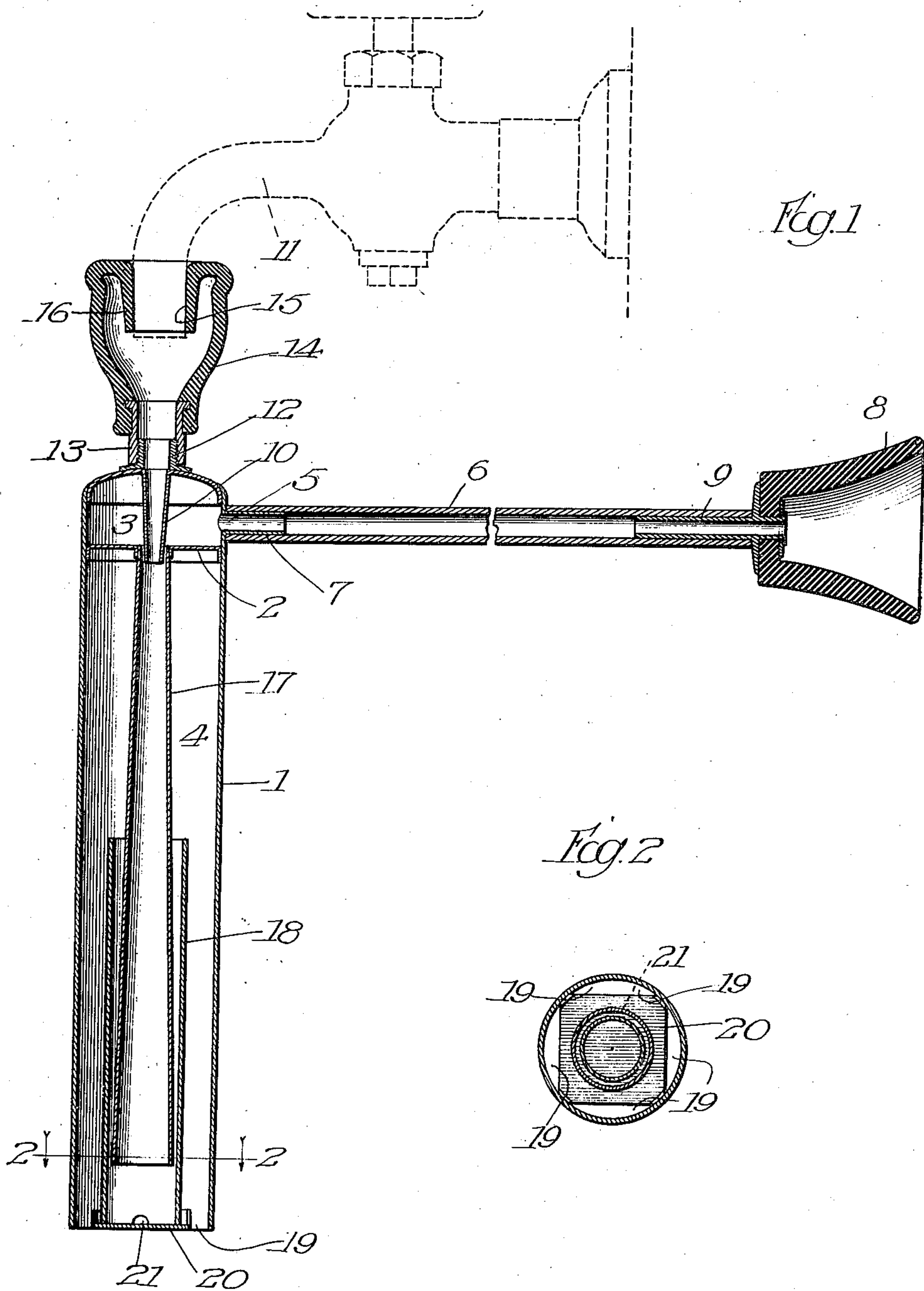


E. M. BASSLER.
 MASSAGE APPARATUS.
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944,252.

Patented Dec. 28, 1909.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MASSAGE APPARATUS.

944,252.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 28, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN M. BASSLER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Massage Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to massage apparatus.

The object of the invention is to provide an apparatus adapted for administering an effective massage, which comprises a simple and inexpensive suction generator adapted to be rendered operative by a jet of water under pressure discharged into said generator, and which may be quickly connected, for use, to and disconnected from a water faucet, or other convenient source of supply of water under pressure, and an applicator, as a rubber cup or the like, connected to said generator by means of a flexible tube, whereby after the apparatus is connected up, the massaging operation involves merely manipulation of said applicator.

To this end my improved massage apparatus comprises the various features and details of construction hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, in which my invention is fully illustrated—Figure 1 is a central, longitudinal, sectional view of my improved apparatus, showing the same connected for operation to a water faucet, indicated in dotted lines; and Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view thereof on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Referring now to the drawing, A designates, as a whole, a suction generator forming part of my improved apparatus. Said suction generator comprises a hollow shell or casing 1, preferably made of suitable sheet metal. The size of the shell or casing of said generator may be varied within considerable limits, for ordinary use, however, a desirable size is about six inches in length by one and one-half inches in diameter.

The interior of the shell or casing 1 is divided by a partition 2 into upper and lower compartments 3 and 4. The top and sides of the compartment 3 are closed and said compartment is provided with an air admission opening 5 to which a flexible tube 6, preferably of soft rubber, is adapted to be connected. For convenience in attaching said tube 6 to the generator in communication with the air admission opening 5, a

nipple 7 is preferably formed on the shell of the generator surrounding said air admission opening. Any desired or approved form of applicator 8, as a rubber cup, is adapted to be connected to the outer end of the tube 6. To provide for using different forms of applicators, said applicators are preferably connected to short metallic tubes 9 adapted to be inserted into the open end of the tube 6, thus providing for detachably connecting said applicators to the ends of said tube 6 so that they may be conveniently changed when desired.

Secured in the top wall of the chamber 3 is a jet nozzle 10, the admission end of which is adapted to be connected to any convenient source of supply of water under pressure, as with a water faucet indicated at 11. My invention contemplates the use of any desired or approved means for connecting the admission opening of the jet nozzle 10 with the faucet 11 or other source of water supply.

As shown, a screw threaded nipple 12 is formed around the admission end of the jet nozzle 10, which is adapted for engagement by a correspondingly screw threaded coupling 13 secured in the lower end of a flexible bulb 14, preferably made of soft rubber or the like. Formed in the opposite end of said bulb 14 is a hole or opening 15 adapted to fit snugly over the end of the faucet 11, a depending lip or flange 16 being formed around said hole or opening 15 within said bulb 14, whereby, when water under pressure is admitted to said bulb, the pressure thereof will operate to force said flange or lip 16 into strong frictional engagement with said faucet and to secure the same firmly in position thereon. For convenience in adjusting the coupling 13 to the nipple 12, the exterior of said coupling is preferably knurled.

Secured in the partition 2 is an induction tube 17, the upper end of which is in open communication with the compartment 3 and which is so positioned that the jet nozzle 10 will discharge into the open upper end of said induction tube, said jet nozzle preferably extending a short distance into the admission end of said induction tube, and the relation being such that only a small opening will be formed between said jet nozzle and the sides of the induction tube. The lower end of said induction tube is open and extends to within a short distance of the lower end of the shell or casing 1 and is pro-

vided with a suitable water seal to prevent air from entering the open lower end thereof. As shown, said water seal consists of a hollow cylinder 18 which surrounds the open lower end of said induction tube, at a distance therefrom, the sides and bottom of said cylinder 18 being closed and the top thereof open. In the operation of the device, water overflowing said seal 18 is adapted to escape from the shell or casing 1 of the generator through suitable holes or openings 19 in the lower end thereof. As shown, said seal 18 is supported on a substantially square plate 20 secured in the lower end of the shell or casing 1, the openings 19 being formed between the edges of said plate and the sides of said shell or casing. To provide for draining the seal 18 when the apparatus is not in use, a small drainage hole or opening 21 is preferably formed in the lower end thereof.

The operation of my improved massage apparatus is as follows:—When it is desired to use the same, the hole or opening 15 in the bulb 14 is inserted over the end of the faucet 11, and said faucet turned to admit water under pressure to the generator A. A jet of water is thereupon discharged from the jet nozzle 10 into the induction tube 17 which will operate in an obvious manner to exhaust the air from the chamber 3 of the generator, whereby a suction will be produced at the open end of the applicator 8. In administering a massage, cold cream is first preferably applied to the part to be treated, and the applicator 8 adjusted so that its edges will bear against the part to be treated, thus closing the same and preventing the admission of air thereto. Still holding the applicator 8 in contact with the part to be treated, said applicator is moved slowly so as to cover any desired part of the body, thus preventing a constant suction at any one point which might cause congestion and discoloration at that point. The suc-

tion created by the generator operates to manipulate the parts of the body to which the applicator is applied, the force of the manipulation depending upon the water pressure in the generator which can be regulated as desired by properly turning the handle of the faucet.

With the described construction and method of operation, it is obvious that the administration of the massage involves merely manipulation of the applicator, the generator being stationary in the bowl beneath the faucet, so that the administration of a massage involves very little effort.

I claim:—

In a massage apparatus, a suction generator, comprising a hollow shell or casing, a partition therein which divides the interior thereof into upper and lower compartments, the upper compartment being provided with an air admission opening and the lower compartment with a water discharge opening, a jet nozzle in said upper compartment, means for connecting the admission end of said jet nozzle with a source of supply of water under pressure, an induction tube in the lower compartment of said generator the upper end of which is in open communication with the upper compartment of said generator, the relation being such that said jet nozzle will discharge into the open end of said induction tube, a water seal for the discharge end of said induction tube, a flexible tube connected to the air admission opening of the apparatus, and an applicator at the end of said tube, substantially as described.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I affix my signature in presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 15th day of April, A. D. 1909.

EDWIN M. BASSLER.

Witnesses:

K. A. COSTELLO,
R. I. MCGINNIS.