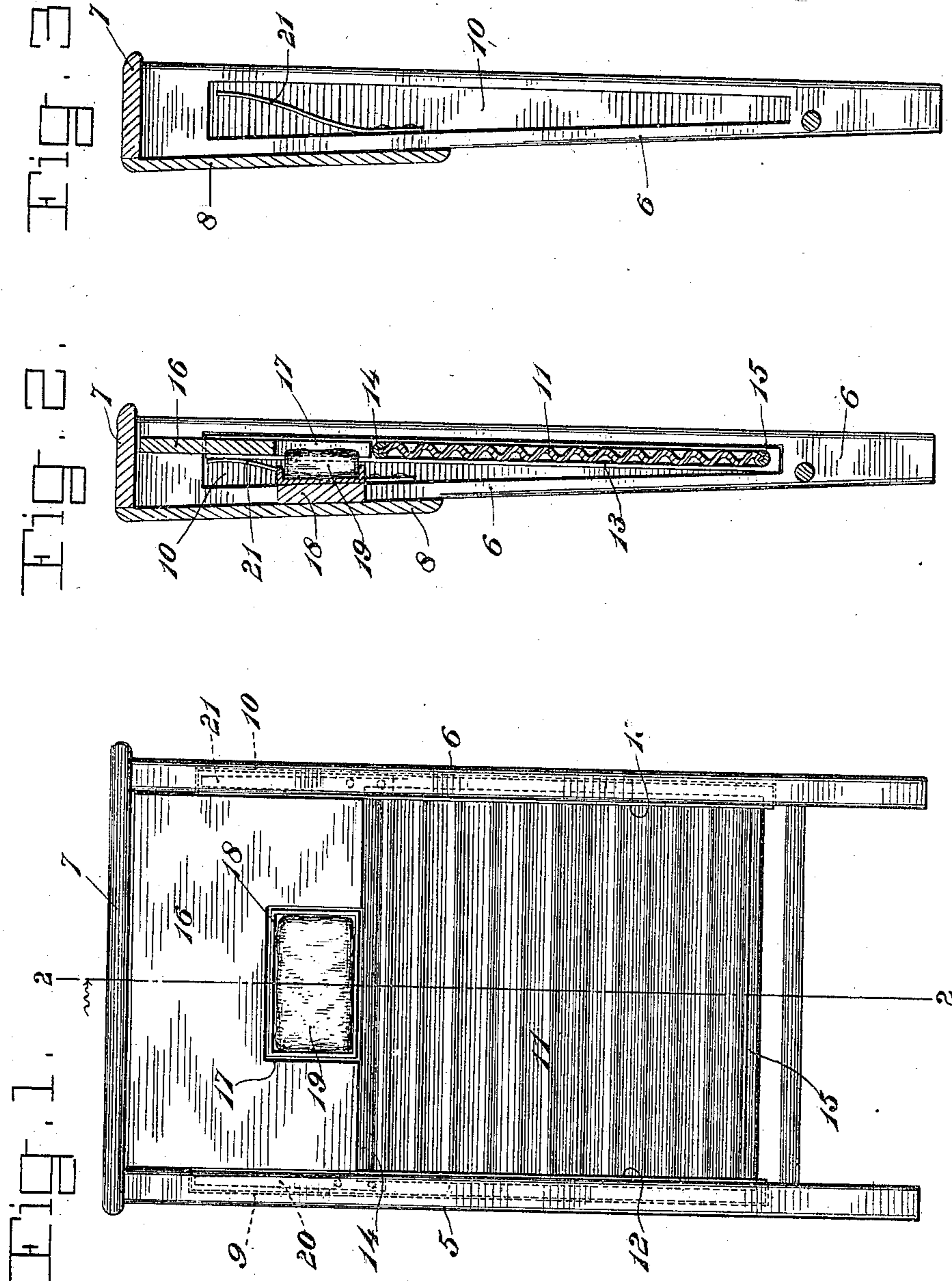


J. W. THIES.
WASHBOARD.
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964,335.

Patented July 12, 1910.



Witnesses

Harry King
John A. Wray

Inventor
James W. Thies

By *Victor J. Evans*
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. THIES, OF HAYNES, NORTH DAKOTA.

WASHBOARD.

964,335.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. THIES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Haynes, in the county of Adams and State of North Dakota, have invented new and useful Improvements in Washboards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in washboards and has for its object the provision of a washboard provided with a rigid frame having at one end portion thereof a soap holder and a rubbing board movably positioned in the frame and having an opening at one end in alinement with and yieldingly held spaced from the soap holder, so that during the operation of scrubbing and when one end of the rubbing board is depressed the soap arranged on the soap holder will be projected through the opening of the rubbing board and into engagement with the garment being washed.

With these and other objects in view, which will more fully hereinafter appear, the present invention consists in certain novel details of construction and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details of the device may be made, within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification;—Figure 1 is a front elevation of the device. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a similar view with the rubbing board removed and disclosing the groove or slot in one side of the frame.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to designate corresponding parts throughout.

The opposite side members of the frame are designated by the numerals 5 and 6, and at their upper ends are connected by a top piece 7. The upper end portions of the side members are connected on their rear sides by a plate 8 extending from the upper ends to the medial portions of the side members.

By referring now to the drawings it will be seen that formed on the opposed inner surfaces of the side members 5 and 6 and extending for the major portions of the

lengths of the side members are longitudinal grooves 9 and 10, the sides of said grooves diverging at their upper ends.

The rubbing board is designated by the numeral 11 and comprises a frame the sides of which are designated by the numerals 12 and 13, and the ends of which are designated by the numerals 14 and 15. The lengths of the sides 12 and 13 correspond to the lengths of the grooves 9 and 10, or substantially so and the widths of the sides correspond approximately to the narrowed ends of the grooves 9 and 10. With this construction it will be manifest, owing to the divergence of the upper end of the grooves, that the upper end of the rubbing board may be oscillated within the grooves. The top plate of the rubbing board is designated by the numeral 16, and as shown is positioned directly above the corrugated rubbing surface. This board overlies the plate 8 and is medially provided with an oblong opening 17 one side of which opens through the lower side of the board, the said opening overlying a slab or block 18 upon which is positioned a cake of soap, such as shown at 19. The block 18 is of such thickness that when the soap is placed thereon and the upper end of the rubbing board moved outwardly so that the sides thereof bear on the outer sides of the grooves, the soap will be partly within the opening 17. When the upper end of the rubbing board is depressed, however, it will be manifest that the soap will be projected through the opening, whereby a garment passed thereover will contact with the soap for an obvious purpose.

In order that the rubbing board may be yieldingly held in such position that the outer face of the soap will be adjacent to the inner end of the opening a pair of leaf springs 20 and 21 are employed. These members have their lower ends fixedly secured to the rear sides of the grooves 10 and 11, while their top portions are bowed forwardly, so that their free terminals bear on the upper end portions of the sides 12 and 13 of the rubbing board. Owing to the disposition of the springs it will be seen that during the operation of scrubbing on the corrugated surface that ordinary pressure will not noticeably depress the rubbing board, however, a yielding effect will be produced by virtue of its springs, whereby the jar always present with a rigid rubbing

surface will be eliminated. When, however, the upper end portion of the rubbing board is depressed, the said upper end will move inwardly and the soap be projected through the opening in the manner before described.

From the foregoing, it is evident that I have provided a device which is comparatively simple in structure, and inexpensive in manufacture, embodying few parts and these so arranged that the danger of derangement will be reduced to a minimum.

I claim:—

1. A washboard with a rigid frame having adjacent to its upper end a soap holder, an oscillating rubbing board positioned in said frame having its upper end portion provided with an opening in alinement with and yieldingly held in advance of the soap holder, whereby the soap holder will be projected through the opening upon the application of pressure to the upper end of the rubbing board.

2. A washboard provided with a rigid

frame the opposite sides of which are provided with converging grooves, and the upper end portion of which is provided with a soap holder, a rubbing board including a frame the opposite sides of which are of uniform width throughout and positioned in said grooves, said rubbing board being provided adjacent to its upper end with an opening in alinement with the said soap holder, means for yieldingly holding the upper end portion of the rubbing board frame on one side of the widened ends of the grooves with the opening thereof spaced from the said soap holder, whereby the said soap holder will be projected through the opening upon the application of pressure to the upper end of said rubbing board.

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

JAMES W. THIES.

Witnesses:

J. MEYLE JOHNSON,
W. G. WELLMAN.