

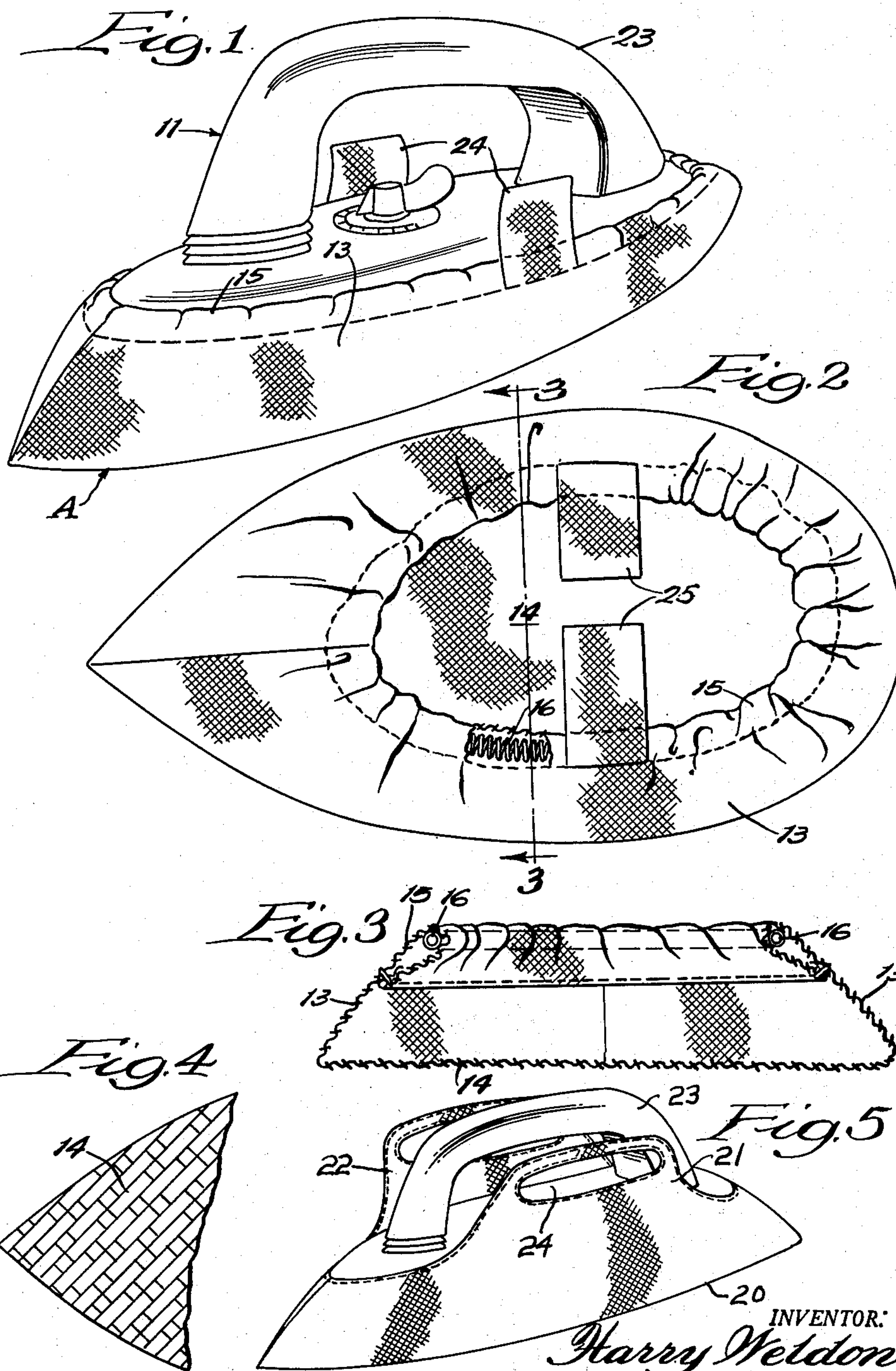
Nov. 17, 1953

H. WELDON

2,659,167

FLATIRON PRESSING STOCKING

Filed May 17, 1950



BY Dawson, Conn. Borth & Spangenberg,
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,659,167

FLATIRON PRESSING STOCKING

Harry Weldon, Plant City, Fla.

Application May 17, 1950, Serial No. 162,408

3 Claims. (Cl. 38—97)

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This invention relates to an attachment for portable irons, such as flat irons and the like.

In the use of flat irons of the type described, the danger of scorching, searing or burning the cloth being ironed is ever present due chiefly to the searing heat occasioned upon direct contact of the metal soleplate of the iron with the goods. When contact between the iron and the goods, because of inadvertance or otherwise, is unduly prolonged, the temperature of the goods may be raised to combustion point and the flame which results may cause dangerous fires. Although unintentional, searing, scorching and burning to some degree has been experienced by every operator.

Important also is the cumulative development of sheen or shine occasioned during ordinary ironing operations, especially with dress fabrics such as silk, nylon, rayon and the like and particularly with fabrics having black or dark color. To minimize the development of shine, which is unattractive and hard to remove, it has been the suggested practice to make use of a pressing cloth for separating the soleplate of the iron from the goods. The technique embodied in the use of a pressing cloth is objectionable to many because it is cumbersome and, as a result, its use is often dispensed with on many occasions when it rightfully should be used.

Another undesirable feature inherent in the use of flat irons arises in the objectionable build-up of foreign and discolored material on the soleplate of the iron. Such foreign materials are picked up from the goods being ironed and, if organic in nature, decomposition or other reaction apparently occurs at the high temperatures to which they are exposed and necessitates cleaning the soleplate at frequent intervals.

In order to overcome these defects inherent in present iron construction, it is an object of this invention to produce an attachment which fits over the soleplate of the iron when in its mounted relation to separate the metal from the goods being ironed in a manner to protect the goods from the searing heat of the iron, minimize or entirely eliminate the development of shine on the goods, and separate the iron from the goods so that foreign material will not accumulate on the soleplate of the iron.

Another object is to produce an attachment to be used in juxtaposed relation with the soleplate of an iron, the attachment being formed of readily available low cost materials and which may be held on the iron with sufficient tension to maintain the desired mounted relation and to

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permit removal from the iron in an expedient manner.

A further object is to produce a new, simple, and low cost attachment for use with flat irons to separate the soleplate from the goods being ironed during ironing operations.

These and other objects and advantages of this invention will hereinafter appear and for purposes of illustration, but not of limitation, embodiments of the invention are shown in the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an attachment embodying features of this invention in mounted relation on the iron.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the attachment shown in Figure 1 separate and apart from the iron;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken along the line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a detail plan view of a portion of the attachment showing the fabric construction at the toe, and

Figure 5 is a perspective view showing a modified form of attachment embodying features of this invention.

Briefly described, invention resides in an attachment for flat irons which separates the soleplate of the iron from the material being ironed. The attachment is formed of a heat resistant material capable of withstanding the temperatures to which the iron might be heated (400 to about 900° F.) without decomposition, physical change and without burning. In its mounted relation, the attachment covers all or part of the soleplate of the iron with means, forming a part thereof, for holding the attachment on the iron in a manner to tension that portion in juxtaposed relation with the soleplate for the purpose of forming a suitable ironing surface. The holding means are easily released to permit removal of the attachment from its mounted relation in the event that use of the iron in a normal manner is desired.

More specifically, as shown in the drawing, the attachment comprises a stocking A formed of heat resistant, fireproof material shaped to fit over the soleplate 10 of an iron 11 with the side walls 13 of the attachment being shaped to slip over the lower side wall portion of the iron. Means associated with the attachment are provided for securing same to iron in position of use. To provide the most effective arrangement the bottom portion 14 of the attachment juxtaposed to the soleplate 10 is shaped substantially to conform to the contour of the soleplate with sufficient extra material to permit universal

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adaptation of the attachment with most irons presently being marketed.

The side wall portion 13 of the stocking or attachment is shaped substantially to conform to the toe portion of the iron with sufficient looseness in the side walls to enable the stocking, quickly and easily, to be slipped over the heel of the iron into position of use.

Snap, clips, or other like fastening means may be provided in the side wall portion 13 or in association with the bottom wall portion 14 for engagement in the usual manner with cooperating devices on the iron. In the alternative a hem 15 may be provided all around the upper edge portion of the iron and a resilient member such as a coil spring 16 may be disposed therein to draw the upper edge portions inwardly about the iron and thereby tension the fabric on the iron in a desirable manner. Suitable tensioning means may also include rubberized tape or rubber bands. Instead of employing such automatic means, draw strings may be threaded through the hem and then pulled to secure the hem tightly about the body portion of the iron for establishing the desired mounted relation.

In the modification shown in Figure 5, the attachment comprises a fabric of the type described having an intermediate portion 20 which covers the soleplate and upwardly extending side wall portions 21 and 22 which converge toward the handle 23 of the iron. The side wall portions 21 and 22 are provided with openings 24 through which the attachment may be gripped by the fingers of the hand used to operate the iron.

Materials suitable for the use in the manufacture of attachments of the type described may comprise substantially stiff or rigid substances formed of heat resistant or fire proof material. It is preferred however to form the attachment of a resilient fabric formed of heat resisting and fire proof fibers such as for example, inorganic fibers of the type glass fibers, mineral wool fibers, asbestos fibers and the like or inorganic metallic filaments of iron, aluminum, steel, copper and the like plied together to form strands which may be woven into suitable cloths.

Of the inorganic fibers, glass fibers are the most suitable because they do not leave lint or the like on the fabrics being ironed. The smooth, hard surfaces, characteristic of glass fibers, gives the desired slip for ironing and glass fibers are known to have high strength and good wear qualities. Since ironing temperatures are usually in excess of 400° F. but below 900° F., glass fibers are able to function without decomposition, and size, if any is employed to prevent destruction of the fibers by mutual abrasion, may be selected of heat stable materials of similar inorganic nature.

When strands of woven metallic filaments are used, heat conductivity of a high order is secured, without subjecting the goods being ironed by direct contact to the intensive searing heat of the soleplate. It is perhaps in this respect that much of the improvement lies in this invention. It may be that in the use of an attachment of the type described the heat of the soleplate reaches the goods mainly by radiation through the interstices between the fibers of the fabric as compared to the searing heat of the soleplate transferred to the fabric by direct contact.

In operation, the attachment is slipped over the soleplate and pulled over the lower portion of the iron—in the event that it is in the form of a stocking. To assist the drawing of the

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stocking over the iron, tabs 25 integral with the upper edge portion of the stocking may be used. If elastic means are employed for holding the attachment onto the iron, the mounted relation is automatically achieved and maintained. Other securing means may be rendered effective in the usual manner.

In its mounted relation, the attachment forms a part of the iron and that portion juxtaposed to the soleplate moves with the iron over the cloth being ironed. As used, it separates the iron from the cloth, prevents direct transfer of searing heat from the soleplate to the goods being ironed, militates against the development of sheen or shine, and minimizes the possibility of the soleplate picking up foreign substances that cause discoloration and lower the efficiency of the iron.

It will be understood that numerous changes may be made in the details of construction, arrangement, and operation without departing from the spirit of the invention, especially as defined in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An attachment for use in combination with a flat iron having a sole plate forming the underside thereof heated for ironing operations comprising a resilient stocking woven of glass fibers and shaped substantially to conform to the contour of the iron with a central portion positioned adjacent the underside of the sole plate and side wall portions extending upwardly therefrom all around to embrace the side wall portions of the iron, a hem in the upper edge of the side wall portions and draw tapes threaded through the hem to draw the side wall portions about the iron thereby to tension the stocking in position of use about the iron.

2. An attachment for use in combination with a flat iron having a sole plate forming the underside thereof heated for ironing operations comprising a resilient stocking woven of glass fibers and shaped substantially to conform to the contour of the iron with a central portion positioned adjacent the underside of the sole plate and side wall portions extending upwardly therefrom all around to embrace the side walls of the iron, a slotted opening in the side wall portions adjacent the handle portion of the iron through which the fingers may be extended when in position of use to tension the stocking about the iron.

3. In combination, a flat iron having a handle member, side walls, and a sole plate forming the underside thereof adapted to be heated for ironing operations and a resilient stocking woven of glass fibers and shaped substantially to conform to the contour of the iron with a central portion positioned adjacent the underside of the sole plate and side wall portions extending upwardly therefrom all around to embrace the side walls of the iron, and means in the upper edge portion of the side walls for tensioning the stocking about the iron when in position of use.

HARRY WELDON.

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