

Nov. 27, 1923.

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S. GUGLIEMELLO

BOOT BLACKING MACHINE

Filed Oct. 18, 1922

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

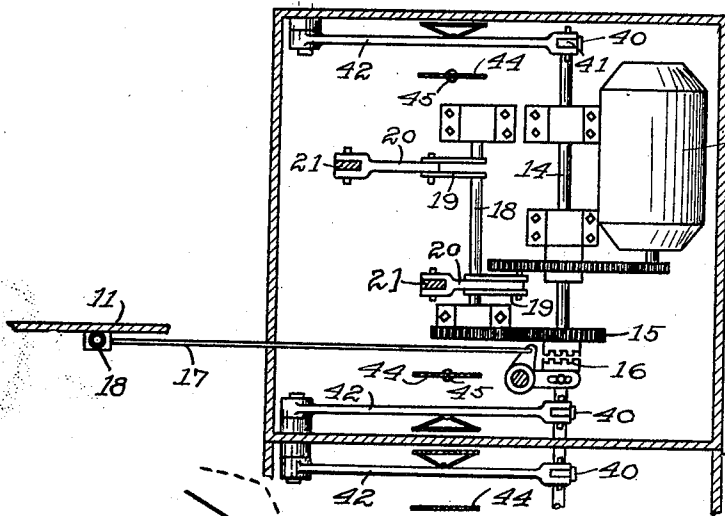


Fig. 3.

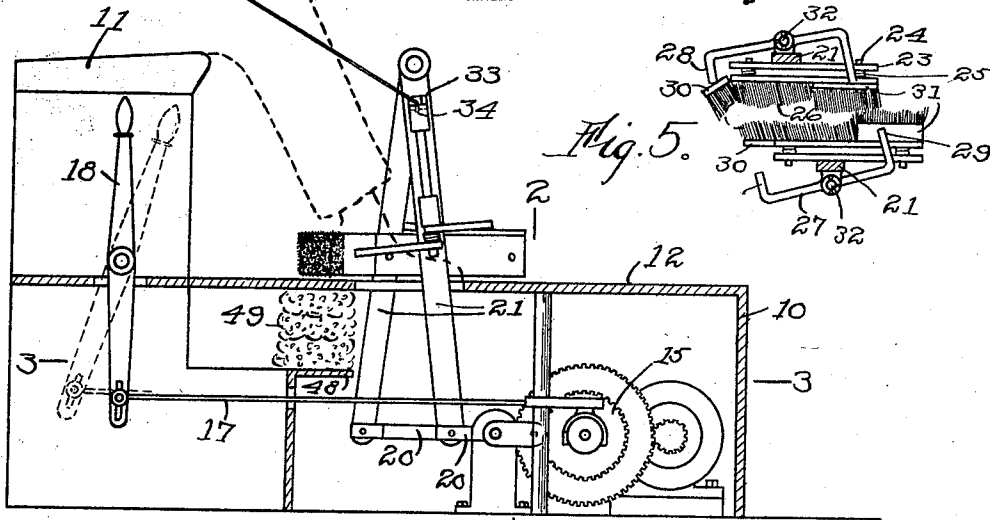


Fig. 5.

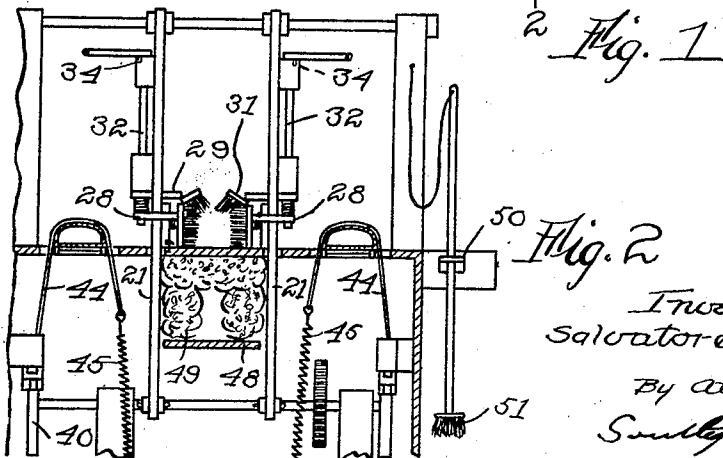


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

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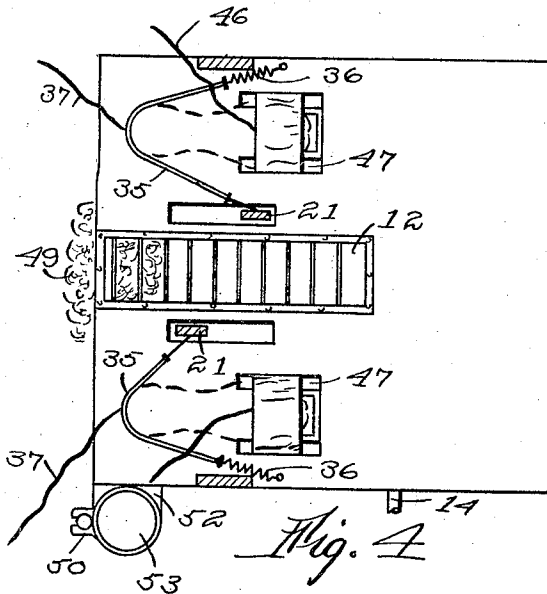
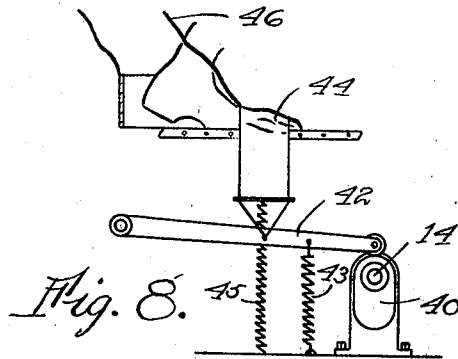
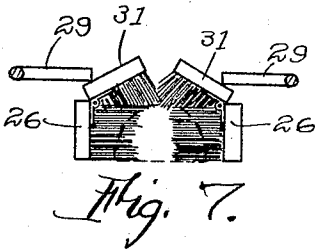
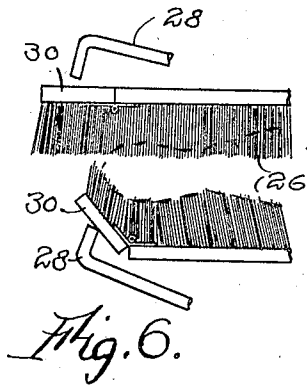
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SALVATORE GUGLIELMELLO, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

BOOT-BLACKING MACHINE.

Application filed October 18, 1922. Serial No. 595,423.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SALVATORE GUGLIELMELLO, a citizen of the United States, residing at Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Boot-Blacking Machine, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a boot blacking machine of the type in which the customer having his boots shined will have control of the machine and there will not necessarily be any attendant except a cashier and, if there is an attendant, he can take care of several machines arranged in a row or otherwise.

The principal objects of the invention are to provide means whereby the brushes for operating on the sides of the shoes will be operated automatically and in such a manner as to perform the necessary operation efficiently; to provide them with means for shining the heel as well as the sides of a shoe, and also shape them so as to operate on the toe; to provide a reciprocating cloth or similar polishing means for the toe of the shoe within control of the operator; and to provide this mechanism in such a form that a row of such machines can be set up together to be operated from the same source of power and controlled by the several customers separately. The invention also involves improvements in the brushes. Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear hereinafter.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings in which

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of mechanism illustrating a preferred embodiment of this invention, the casing being shown in section;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view showing the power operating means in plan taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a plan of the machine showing the top of the same;

Fig. 5 is a detail of the brushes shown in plan;

Fig. 6 is a similar view on enlarged scale showing the operation;

Fig. 7 is an end elevation of the brushes, and

Fig. 8 is an end view of the machine.

The invention is shown in a form in which one or more casings 10 are set up side by side each having a seat 11 for the customer and

a platform or grating 12 on which he places his foot when desiring to have his shoe shined. In the bottom of the casing is a motor 13 or other source of power which operates the main shaft 14. If there are several machines this shaft 14 runs all the way through and rotates constantly. There will be only one motor for a series of machines. The main shaft is provided with a gear 15 loose on it, and adapted to be clutched to the shaft by a clutch 16 operated by a link 17 and lever 18 within the reach of the customer. One set of these clutches and levers is located on each machine so that each customer can operate the clutch of his machine independently of the others.

Each of the gears 15 is connected with a second shaft 18 provided with two cranks 19. Each of these cranks is connected by a link 20 with a lever 21. These cranks are set 180 degrees apart on the shaft so that the two levers 21 oscillate alternately on their pivots 22 above. One swings forward when the other swings backward. On each of these levers 21 is located a plate 23 provided with guide studs 24 and springs 25 for holding a brush 26 yieldingly against the shoe. The two brushes 26 are located oppositely obviously for engaging the opposite sides of the same shoe.

Pivotally mounted by means of a vertical shaft 32 on each of the levers 21 is a lever 27 having right angled arms 28 and 29 projected toward the brush. Each of the brushes is provided with a vertically hinged rear end 30 and a longitudinally hinged front end 31. As the lever swings back toward the rear the arm 28 engages the pivoted brush section 30 and swings it inwardly to move around the heel of the shoe on that side and as it moves forward the arm 29 engages the brush section 31 and forces that over inwardly against the top of the toe. Both of these operations are shown in Fig. 5. One acts to brush the heel and the other the toe. They are controlled by a handle 33 on the shaft 32 within reach of the operator. A spring pin 34 holds the shaft in any position by entering a notch in the bearing of the shaft. In Figs. 6 and 7 the action is shown more in detail.

I have also provided two cloths 35 each connected at one end with one of the levers 21 and connected by a spring 36 with a stationary point on the other side for polishing the heel of the shoe controlled by

the operation of the lever 21. This cloth is provided with a string 37 which the operator can manipulate to raise it and lower it on the shoe. This can be used with the hinged brush section 30 or in place of it and is used when the shoes are located between the guides 47.

It has been stated that the shaft 14 rotates constantly. It is provided with two cams 40, one at each end, and each operating on a roll 41 on the end of a lever 42. Each of these levers is held down by a spring 43 and it is connected with a cloth 44, the other end of the cloth being connected by a spring 45 with the bottom of the casing. This cloth also is provided with a string or cord 46 which the customer may manipulate to place the cloth in proper position.

On the stand there are two guides 47 for the shoes, one at each side of the central part. After the preliminary polishing operation is performed by the brushes, the customer puts his two feet in these guides 47, manipulates the two cloths 35 and 44 by their respective strings, and then allows the machine to continue to operate to polish the toe of each shoe.

On the side of the machine at the right is a rack 50 for holding a dauber 51 and the casing is provided with a shelf 52 for holding the box of polish 53.

I have also shown a lower platform 48 with a series of sponges 49 spaced from it for the customer to introduce the toe of his shoe into after he has daubed the paste on it to distribute it.

In the operation of the device the customer seats himself on the seat 11, places one foot on the machine, and daubs the polish on with a dauber 51. Then if he desires, he puts the foot in on the platform 48, then puts his foot on the rack 12 and operates the lever 18 to start the machine. The brushes move back and fourth on the sides of the shoe and spread the polish well over it and on the toe and heel as well. The operation is then performed on the other shoe, and while that is being done he can place the one which has just been operated on in one of the guides 47, adjust the cloths thereon, and secure the finishing and polishing operation. Then the other shoe is finished of course in the same way.

Although I have illustrated and described only a single form of the invention, I am aware of the fact that modifications can be made therein by any person skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the invention as expressed in the claims.

Therefore I do not wish to be limited to all the details of construction herein shown and described, but what I do claim is:—

1. In a shoe polishing machine, the combination of a main shaft, means for con-

stantly operating said shaft, a polishing cloth, a substantially horizontal lever to which one end of the polishing cloth is attached, a spring for connecting the other end of the polishing cloth with a stationary part of the machine, and a cam on said main shaft on which the lever rests for oscillating said lever to draw the cloth over a shoe placed under it.

2. In a shoe polishing machine, the combination of a shaft, a polishing cloth, a lever to which one end of the polishing cloth is connected, a spring for connecting the other end of the polishing cloth with a stationary point, means on said shaft for oscillating said lever to draw the cloth over a shoe placed under it, and a cord connected with said cloth by which it can be manipulated by the customer.

3. In a shoe polishing machine, the combination of a platform having two pairs of guides thereon in each of which a shoe is adapted to be placed, a cloth extending over said guides, means for constantly reciprocating said cloth to polish the toe of a shoe placed between the guides, a second cloth arranged at the back of the guides in vertical position and movable across the heel of a shoe placed between the guides to polish the heel, means for moving the second cloth back and forth in its path, and a string connected with each of these cloths by which they can be adjusted by the customer.

4. In a shoe polishing machine, the combination with a seat for the customer and a platform, of an open grating at the center of the platform in front of the seat for receiving one foot of the customer, means at the sides of the grating for polishing the sides of a shoe on the grating, a pair of guides at each side of the grating for receiving the shoes of the customer, a cloth over each pair of guides for polishing the toe of the shoes, and a cloth at the rear of the guides for polishing the heel of each shoe.

5. In a shoe polishing machine, the combination of a main shaft, means for constantly operating said shaft, a second shaft, means within the control of the customer for connecting the second shaft with the main shaft, said second shaft being provided with a pair of oppositely extending cranks, a pair of levers, each connected with one of said cranks, whereby said levers will be oscillated alternately, a pair of cloths each connected with one of said levers and having a spring connection at the other end adapted and arranged to polish the heel of the shoe, and a pair of brushes mounted on said levers for initially polishing the shoe.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature.

SALVATORE GUGLIELMELLO.