

May 12, 1925.

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A. G. INGLE

FOLDING TOOTHBRUSH

Filed June 23, 1924

Fig. 1.

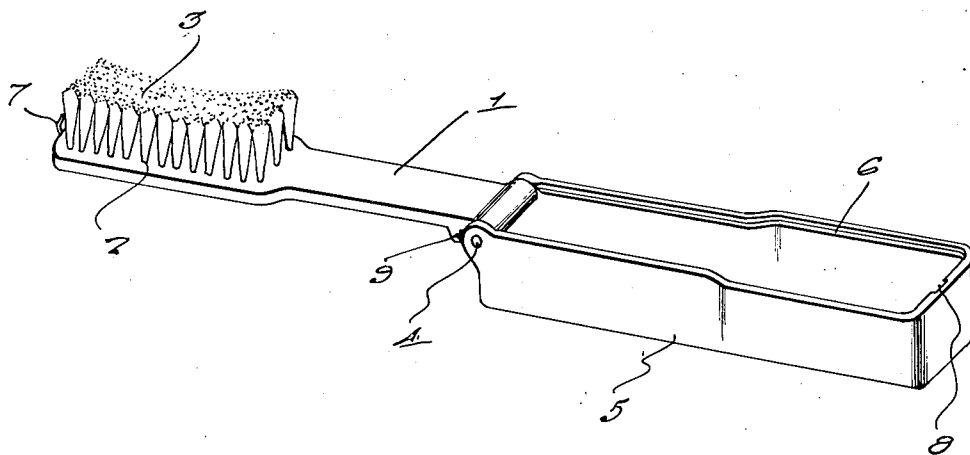
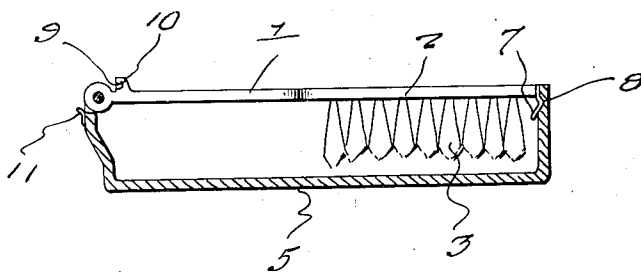


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FOLDING TOOTHBRUSH.

Application filed June 23, 1924. Serial No. 721,760.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR G. INGLE, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Portland, in the county of Multnomah and State of Oregon, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Toothbrushes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in folding tooth brushes and has for its principal object to provide a means for normally receiving the brush head when the same is not in use in such a manner as to prevent any foreign substance from coming in contact therewith, whereby the brush is rendered sanitary.

A further object of the invention is to provide a folding tooth brush of the above mentioned character, which provides a means whereby the same may be readily carried in the pocket of a person and may further be easily and quickly swung to an operative position.

A further object of the invention is to provide a folding tooth brush of the above mentioned character, wherein means is normally provided for holding the brush against accidental displacement from the casing in which the brush head is normally disposed when not in use. Means being further provided for holding the brush in an extended position to prevent the swinging movement thereof while the same is in use.

A further object of the invention is to provide a folding tooth brush of the above mentioned character, which is simple in construction, inexpensive, strong and durable and furthermore adapted for the purposes for which it is designated.

Other objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals designate like parts throughout the same:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved folding tooth brush showing the same in an extended position, and

Figure 2 is a sectional view of the casing showing the brush in a folded position with the brush head disposed within the casing.

In the drawing wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown the preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 1 designates the handle portion of a tooth brush,

the same having the brush head 2 carrying the bristles 3 provided on the outer end thereof in the manner clearly illustrated in Figure 1. The inner end of the handle is pivotally supported as illustrated at 4 on the upper forward end of a suitable casing 5, the top of which is open and the same being of such configuration as to cooperate with the contour of the handle and brush head of the tooth brush.

Formed on the inner walls of the casing adjacent the upper edges thereof is the shoulder 6 which provides a means for engagement with the outer edges of the handle portion 1 and the brush head 2 when the latter is in a folded position and the bristles are disposed downwardly within the casing in the manner clearly illustrated in Figure 2. For the purpose of normally holding the tooth brush in a folded position within the casing whereby the back of the handle and brush head will form a cover for the casing, I provide the spring clip 7 which is carried by the brush head and the latter cooperates with a suitable notch 8 provided in the rear end wall of the casing. When in the position shown in Figure 2 of the drawing, the device may readily be carried in the pocket of a person and will not occupy much space.

When it is desired to use the tooth brush, the same may be swung on the pivot 4 so that the handle and brush head will be disposed outwardly with respect to the casing in the manner as shown in Figure 1 and the casing will then act as a handle for facilitating the proper use of the tooth brush. In order that the tooth brush may be supported in a substantially rigid position when extended, I provide the handle portion 1 adjacent the pivotal end of the same with the projection 9 and the projection is provided on its inner face with a suitable notch 10 for receiving the free end of a spring 11 which is carried by the adjacent end wall of the casing 5. The spring 11 will fit in the notch 10 and thereby hold the handle and the brush head of the tooth brush against swinging movement on the pivot 4 so as to permit the tooth brush to be properly and efficiently used.

The device may be constructed of any suitable material such as celluloid, rubber, or any suitable metal, and I do not wish to limit myself to any particular kind of material which may be used. A tooth brush

and casing therefor of the above mentioned character, may be manufactured at a very low cost and will further be strong and durable. The simplicity of the same enables
5 the tooth brush to be readily folded into the casing when the same is not to be used and may be further swung to an outward or extended position whenever it is desired to use the same.

10 While I have shown the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that various changes in the size, shape and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended
15 claim.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:—

In a folding tooth brush, comprising in

combination, a handle, a brush head on the 20
outer end thereof, a casing hingedly associated with the inner end of the handle, the casing having its top open and adapted to receive the handle and brush head when the
latter is in a folded position, means for 25
holding the same in position in the casing, means for holding the handle against swinging movement when the same is in an extended position, said last means comprising
a projection on the inner end of the handle, 30
the same being provided with a notch, and a spring carried by the adjacent end of the casing for cooperation with the notch in the projection.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature. 35

ARTHUR G. INGLE.