Oct. 11, 1955 C. C. HIBBS 2,719,998

ROTATABLY ADJUSTABLE BRISTLE HEAD

Filed Feb. 11, 1953

Fig. 1

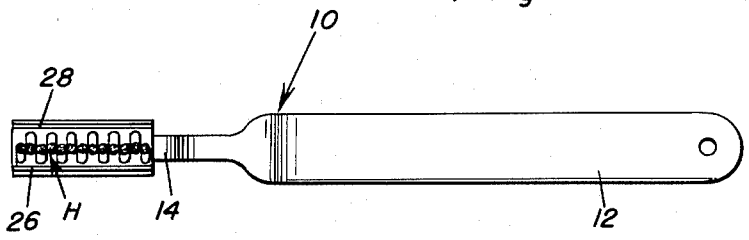


Fig. 2

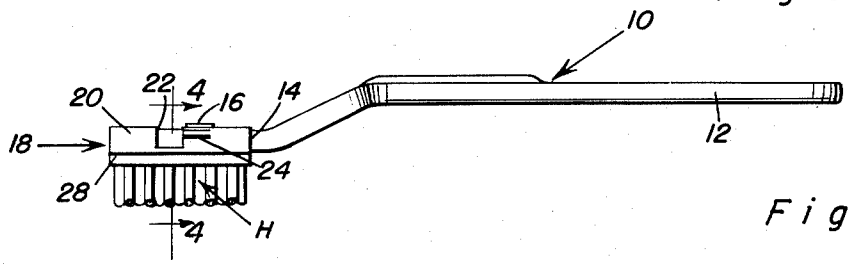


Fig. 4

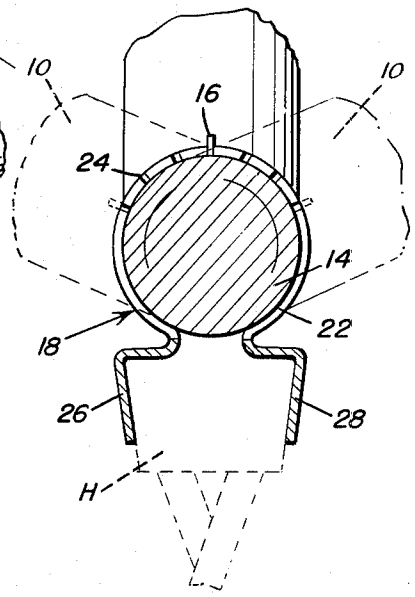


Fig. 3

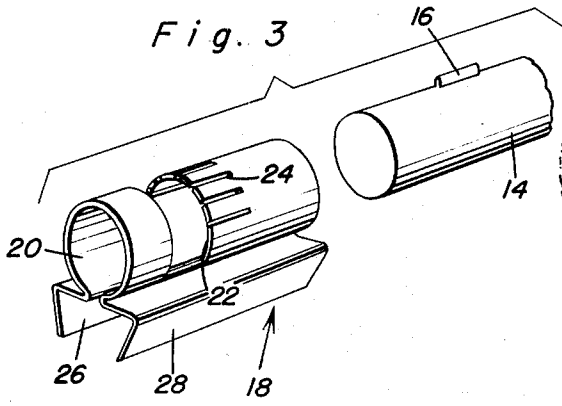
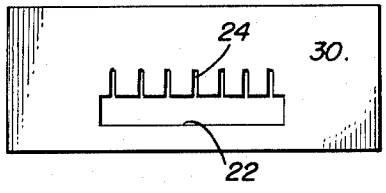


Fig. 5



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ROTATABLY ADJUSTABLE BRISTLE HEAD

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Application February 11, 1953, Serial No. 336,233

1 Claim. (Cl. 15—172)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in handle structures and the primary object of the present invention is to provide a handle structure adapted to releasably hold a bristle head such as that disclosed in my U. S. Patent No. 2,618,801.

Another important object of the present invention is to provide a handle structure including a rotatably adjustable bristle-head holder that may be retained at a desired angle relative to the hand gripping portion of the handle so that the teeth and gums of a user's mouth may be effectively massaged and stimulated while the user's hand is held in a comfortable position.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a handle structure embodying novel and improved means for retaining the bristle-head holder in a selected rotatable position relative to the hand gripping portion of the handle structure.

A still further aim of the present invention is to provide a handle structure of the aforementioned character that is extremely simple and practical in construction, strong and reliable in use, neat and attractive in appearance, efficient and durable in use, inexpensive to manufacture, and otherwise well adapted for the purposes for which the same is intended.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which

Figure 1 is a bottom plan view of the present invention and showing a bristle head secured to the holder;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the present invention and showing a bristle head applied to the holder;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary group perspective view showing the holder spaced from the cylindrical end portion of the hand gripping member and the bristle head removed;

Figure 4 is an enlarged transverse vertical sectional view taken substantially on the plane of section line 4—4 of Figure 2 and showing the bristle head in dotted lines and showing the handle in different adjusted positions; and

Figure 5 is a plan view of the blank from which the holder is formed.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, wherein for the purpose of illustration, there is disclosed a preferred embodiment of the present invention, numeral **10** represents a handle structure primarily intended to be used in holding a bristle head H such as that disclosed in my U. S. Patent No. 2,618,801. Handle structure **10** includes an elongated hand gripping portion or member **12** having an offset cylindrical outer end portion **14** whose upper periphery is formed with a longitudinal rib or lug **16** that projects radially outwardly from the end portion **14**.

A holder **18** is removably supported on the cylindrical end portion **14** and includes a substantially tubular portion **20** that is yieldingly engaged over end portion **14**.

Tubular portion **20** is rotatable and slidable on end portion **14** and includes a slot **22** that slidably receives the rib **16** to permit rotation of the holder on end portion **14**. Portion **20** is also provided with a series of circumferentially spaced longitudinal slits or slots **24** that intersect and extend rearwardly from slot **22** for selectively receiving the rib **16** to retain the holder **18** in a selected rotated position on end portion **14**.

Tubular portion **20** is provided with a longitudinal opening spaced from the ends of the slot **20**. The edges of portion **22** defining the opening are integrally formed with facing angle gripping flanges **26** and **28** that will yieldingly grip the sides of the bristle head H.

Holder **18** is preferably formed from a substantially rectangular blank **30** of resilient sheet metal, as shown in Figure 5, with the ends of the blank **30** being bent toward each other and angulated to form the cylindrical portion **20** and the gripping flanges **26** and **28**, after the slot **22** and slots **24** have been provided in the blank.

In practical use of the present invention, the holder **18** is readily slipped upon the cylindrical end portion **14** with the rib **16** positioned within the slot **22**. The bristle head H is yieldingly fitted between the gripping flanges **26** and **28** to be held by the holder **18**. Then, the holder **18** is rotated upon end portion **14** until the bristle head H is disposed at a desired inclined angle relative to the hand gripping member **12**, after which the holder **18** is moved forwardly so that the rib **16** will be yieldingly retained in a selected one of the slits **24**.

The user may then employ the handle structure for massaging and stimulating the gums by placing the bristle head H in his mouth and comfortably moving the hand gripping member **12** with a reciprocatory motion. Since the rib **16** will be yieldingly gripped by the edges defining one of the slits **24**, the holder will remain stationary with respect to the cylindrical end portion **14** once the desired adjustment has been made.

It is preferred that the hand gripping member **12** be constructed from a plastic material so that the same may be retained in a clean and sanitary condition. The metal forming holder **18** is also constructed from a suitable material that is readily cleaned to be retained in a sanitary condition.

From the foregoing, the construction and operation of the device will be readily understood and further explanation is believed to be unnecessary. However, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

A handle structure comprising an elongated member having a cylindrical end portion, a longitudinal rib on said cylindrical end portion projecting radially outwardly from said cylindrical end portion, a bristle-head holder including a resilient substantially tubular portion yieldingly engaged over said cylindrical end portion and rotatable and slidable on the latter, the tubular portion of said holder having a circumferentially extending arcuate slot therein in which said rib is movable as the holder is rotated on said cylindrical end portion, said tubular portion of said holder also having a series of circumferentially spaced longitudinal slits opening into said slot and adapted to selectively receive said rib when said tubular portion is slid on said cylindrical end portion whereby to retain the holder in a selected rotated position on said cylindrical end portion, said holder having a longitudinal opening splitting the same to provide for said holder gripping said cylindrical end portion by its resiliency, said

holder having a pair of opposed flanges extending along the edges of said opening and resilient for gripping a bristle head therebetween.

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