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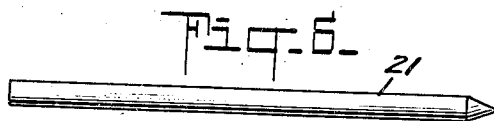
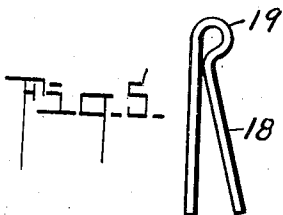
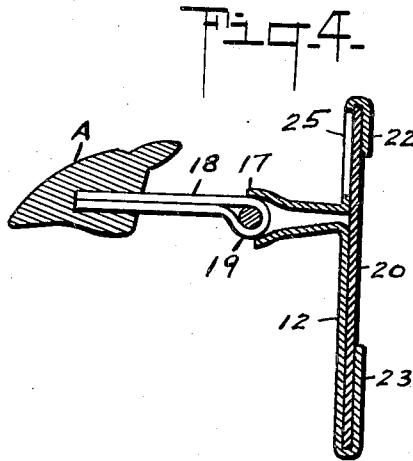
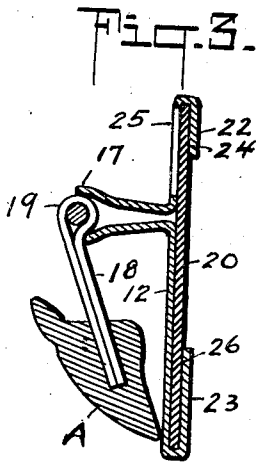
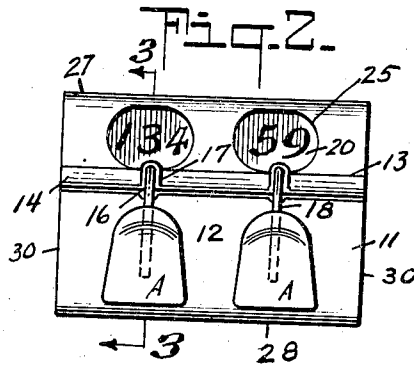
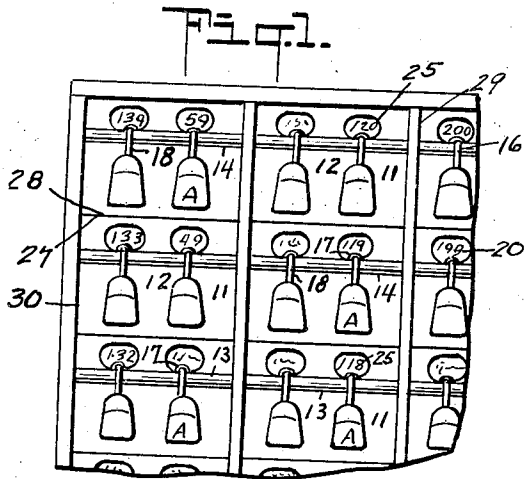
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2,184,977

ARTIFICIAL TOOTH HOLDER

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ARTIFICIAL TOOTH HOLDER

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5 Claims. (Cl. 206—83)

This invention relates to an artificial tooth holder or mounting, and particularly to a type of holder wherein the individual tooth thereon may be raised for examination without disturbing the base plate.

The object of the present invention is to provide an efficient artificial tooth holding device to overcome objections experienced with present day devices, while at the same time cheapening the manufacture of same.

Most of the present day shade and mold guides and artificial tooth mounting devices comprise a base member with a series of individual tooth mounting members thereon, and which said members are not individually movable with respect to the base. In cases where these tooth mounting devices are retained in drawers, trays or the like, it is necessary, when desiring to raise one of the teeth for examination, for shade, etc., to raise all the teeth along with the base upon which they are mounted. This arrangement provides a condition wherein the bases do not retain their positions on the floor of the drawer or tray unless trunnion means is provided on the ends thereof.

The present invention has for one of its principal objects a tooth mounting device having a base which will lie flat on the floor of a drawer or tray, and which when so positioned need never be raised or removed for inspecting or examining any particular tooth held thereon.

A further object of the invention is to provide a base of such width that the teeth and their supporting means are always within the area of said base.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an artificial tooth holder in which each individual tooth is mounted on a separately movable member, so that it can be raised for examination without raising any other teeth.

Another object is to provide spring action in the tooth holding member so that it will be retained in the position in which it is placed.

According to the invention, the artificial tooth holder comprises a sheet metal strip having an upstanding flange extending longitudinally thereof and bent to provide a bight or tubular part at the extremity of the flange, portions cut from said tube, a pintle in said tube, and tooth supporting members pivotally mounted on said pintle and adapted to receive a tooth on their outer ends. The tooth supporting member may be in the form of a cotter having its legs sprung apart at their outer ends to fit into the socket or recesses of an artificial tooth and retain said

tooth thereon. The material around the cutout portions of the tube may be peened or flared in order to provide spring contact with the loop part of the pintle, in order that the pintle may snap from one position to another, and remain in the position in which it is placed.

The drawing illustrates an embodiment of the invention, and the views therein are as follows:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary top plan view of a drawer or tray showing an arrangement of the tooth holders therein.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of one of the tooth holders with the teeth resting against the base.

Figure 3 is an enlarged vertical sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a view similar to Figure 3 showing the manner in which any individual tooth may be raised for examination.

Figure 5 is a side view of the cotter showing the legs of the same spread for providing gripping means when inserted into the socket of an artificial tooth.

Figure 6 is a longitudinal view of the pintle upon which the cotters are mounted.

In illustrating and describing the present invention, the tooth holder has but two teeth mounted thereon, but it will be understood that holders of any desired length may be provided to accommodate any number of partial or complete sets of teeth.

The base member 11 comprises a strip of sheet metal, and the face 12 thereof is bent to provide an upstanding flange 13. This flange is substantially at right angles to the face 12, and at its outer extremity is provided with a tubular part 14. At certain intervals the tubular portion is cut-away, as at 16, and the remaining edges peened or flared outwardly, as at 17. Spring cotters 18 have their loops 19 inserted into the openings so made, and a pintle 21 is passed through the tube and through the loops of said cotters, so that said cotters are pivotally mounted on said pintle.

The peened or flared edge 17 provides a spring contact with the cotter which has a movement from the position shown in Figure 3 to the position shown in Figure 4, while said flared edge will prevent any further upward movement of the cotter beyond that shown in Figure 4.

The sheet metal base has an aperture 25 immediately above each of the cut-out portions 16, that is to say, immediately above each of the tooth supporting cotters 18, and the upper and lower longitudinal edges of the base are turned under to provide flanges 22 and 23, leaving

grooves 24 and 26 for the insertion of a card 20 upon which identifying data may be placed, and which may be inspected through the apertures. This identifying matter, of course, refers to and identifies the particular tooth on the adjacent cotter, and gives the necessary information with respect to mold, shade, etc.

The base 11 is of such width that the lower edges of the teeth A mounted on the cotters 18 will always be within the area of said base. Therefore, the edges 27 and 28 of the base may abut their neighbors, and be retained in position on the floor of the drawer or tray.

With the peened or flared-out part 17 cooperating with the loop of the pintle, there will be a snap action between the position shown in Figures 3 and 4, as well as a certain amount of tension so that the cotters supporting the teeth A will always remain in the position in which they are placed by the dentist, and when he desires to inspect any particular tooth for the purpose of matching, etc., he need only raise the individual tooth desired to be inspected, and when the examination is finished the same can be pressed down to its normal position, shown in Figure 3.

While the drawer of Figure 1 shows divisions 29 therein, it will be understood that the edges 30 of the devices will prevent the piling up or disturbance of their position in the drawer where no such partitions exist.

Of course, the tooth holder illustrated and described herein may be modified and changed in various ways without departing from the invention herein set forth and hereafter claimed.

The invention is hereby claimed as follows:

1. An artificial tooth holder comprising a single piece sheet metal base bent to form an upstanding longitudinal flange, a bight in said flange extending from end to end thereof, a pintle in said bight, spaced cut-out portions in said bight, a tooth supporting member pivotally

mounted on said pintle at said cut-out portion, and means on said member for holding a tooth thereon.

2. An artificial tooth holder comprising a single piece sheet metal base bent to form an upstanding longitudinal flange, a bight in said flange extending from end to end thereof, a pintle in said bight, spaced cut-out portions in said bight, a tooth supporting member pivotally mounted on said pintle at said cut-out portion, flanged means limiting the travel of said member, means for holding said member in any desired position within said limit, and means on said member for holding a tooth thereon.

3. An artificial tooth holder comprising a sheet metal base bent to form an upstanding flange with a tube-shaped part at its extremity, a portion cut from said tube, the material around said cut-out portion flared outwardly, a pintle in said tube, and a cotter pin pivotally mounted on said pintle and having spring contact with said flared material.

4. An artificial tooth holder comprising a sheet metal base bent to form an upstanding longitudinal flange bent at substantially right angles to said base and forming a bight, a pintle in said flange, a tooth supporting member pivotally mounted on said pintle, one wall of said flange being extended to prevent the pivoting of said member beyond a position substantially at right angles to said base.

5. An artificial tooth holder comprising a sheet metal base bent to form an upstanding flange with a tube-shaped part at its extremity, a portion cut from said tube, the material around said cut-out portion flared outwardly, a pintle in said tube, and a cotter pin pivotally mounted on said pintle and having spring contact with said flared material, said flared edge preventing the pivotal movement of said cotter beyond a position substantially at right angles to said base.

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