Feb. 2, 1932. F. M. RECORD ET AL 1,843,337

TEETH PROTECTOR

Filed March 5, 1930

Fig. 1

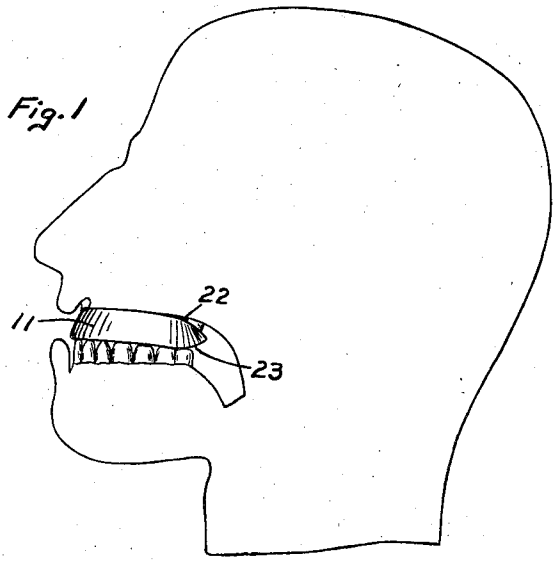


Fig. 2

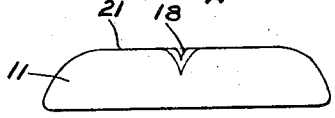
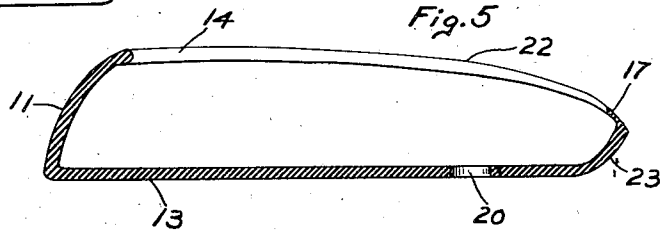


Fig. 5



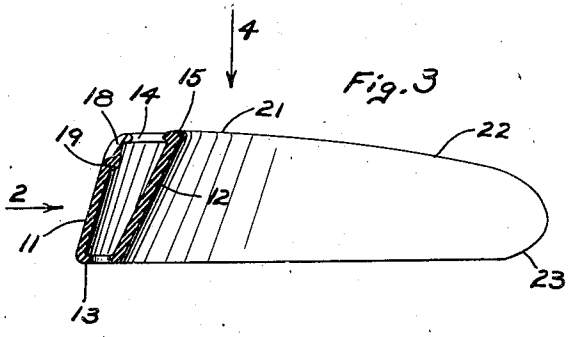
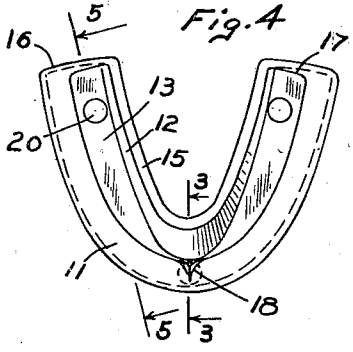


Fig. 3

Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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TEETH PROTECTOR

Application filed March 5, 1930. Serial No. 433,377.

The type of teeth protector to which our invention pertains is a device suitable for use in athletic games such as football or boxing or other games in which the teeth are apt to be damaged.

Our invention comprises a sheath which is adapted to encase the upper teeth and is formed of rubber molded to proper shape, whereby it may be stretched over the teeth and will be retained in place. A feature of our invention pertains particularly to the manner in which the protector is retained on the teeth and the shape of the protector to cause it to fit snugly against the teeth.

Our invention is illustrated in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which,

Fig. 1 represents in diagram a section of a person's jaw, showing the protector in place on the upper teeth;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the protector as if taken in the direction of the arrow 2 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section through the center of the protector, taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 4 is a plan of the protector in the direction of the arrow 4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a section taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4 in the direction of the arrows.

Our protector is channel-shaped in structure, having an outer wall 11, an inner wall 12 and a base 13. The inner and outer walls have beads 14 and 15 on their upper edge and the whole device is shaped to fit on the upper teeth. At the rear edge 16 there is an inwardly turned rubber rim 17 which is adapted to pull into the gum at the rearwardmost tooth on each side in the upper jaw.

At the front of the protector there is a slight partial slit 18 which is formed V-shaped and inside this there is an inwardly projecting bead 19 which is a continuation of the marginal bead 14, the bead following the contour of the slit. There are a plurality of perforations 20 in the base, there being three illustrated, one on each side adjacent the rear of the device and one adjacent the front. It will be noted that the base 13 occupies a plane surface and that the upper portion at the front 21 is substantially parallel thereto to a position about one half way towards the rear of the device when there is a downward convex curvature at the portion indicated by 22 in Fig. 3.

The rear portion of the base also has an upturned convex end 23, the curvature at the ends adjoining and forming a convex end adjacent the inwardly turned rubber rim. The V-shaped notch provides for the slight membrane of skin underneath the upper lip and the beads cause the device to bind snugly against the teeth adjacent the gums.

It will be apparent that the device may be readily slipped in place on the teeth and will hold to the upper teeth whether or not the protector is pressed in place by the teeth of the lower jaw. The protector gives protection to both the teeth of the upper and lower jaw as the teeth of the lower jaw may bite into the soft rubber of the protector. The openings 13 allow drainage of any saliva that may collect in the protector.

A further feature of importance in our application is that the outer wall 11, particularly at the front, slopes from the base inwardly at quite a decided angle and that the inner wall also has a somewhat parallel slope and both have decided inturned beads. This inward slope of the inner and outer walls continues substantially completely around the protector from one end to the other. The slope conforms to a certain extent to the natural slope of the teeth of a person's mouth so that the protector will fit the majority of persons designing to use them. When placed on the teeth there is a slight suction which causes the inner and outer walls to clamp tightly to the teeth, forcing the beads 14 and 15 into close engagement with the gums.

It is obvious that the same type of protector will do for the lower teeth, substantially no change being required and in many cases the same protector will do for both upper and lower teeth. In addition, if desired a person may wear protectors on both sets of teeth, thus at the same time giving full protection to both the lower and the upper teeth of the jaw. These have been found

of material benefit to boxers in preventing injury to the teeth.

Various changes may be made in the principles of our invention without departing from the spirit thereof as set forth in the description, drawings and claims.

We claim:

1. A protector for the teeth, comprising a U-shaped structure channel shaped in cross section, having inner and outer imperforate walls with a connecting base, the rear end of said base being upturned and convex and adapted to embrace the innermost teeth to firmly hold the protector in position.

2. A protector for the teeth, comprising a U-shaped structure channel shaped in cross section, having inner and outer imperforate walls with a connecting base, the rear end of of said base being upturned and provided at the upper end with a rim extending forwardly of said upturned end, said rim being adapted to embrace the innermost teeth to firmly hold the protector in position.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification.

GORDON TRAVERS.
FORREST M. RECORD.