

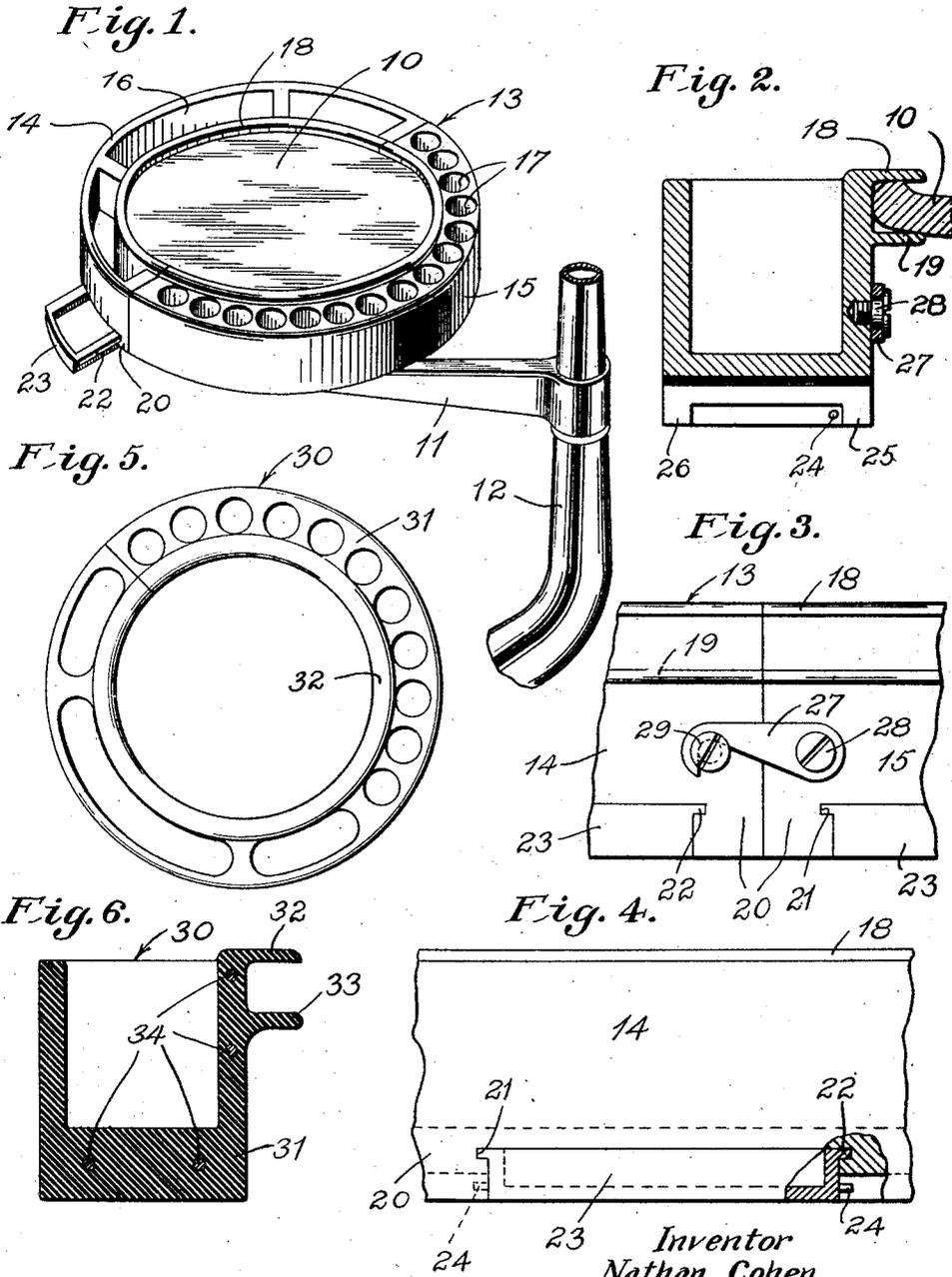
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DENTAL TRAY ATTACHMENT

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## DENTAL TRAY ATTACHMENT.

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This invention relates to improvements in dental tray attachments and more particularly to a support for bottles, cotton and small miscellaneous items such as a dentist will require while attending a patient.

The primary object of the invention is to promote convenience so that any one of many articles which a dentist may be called upon for instantaneous use may be readily produced and returned to its customary place without delay or impedance of the work being performed.

Ordinarily a dentist is provided with a dental tray which is suspended near the dental chair in such a manner that his instruments, absorbent cotton, lamp and other paraphernalia are within easy reach while he is in attendance on a patient. These trays however are limited in size so that only such instruments and the like as the dentist ordinarily requires are available for immediate use and it is not infrequent that some article or medicinal application is required which is not upon the tray and it then becomes necessary to leave the work on hand to produce the material from some other source. Such interruptions not only cause much inconvenience and loss of time for the dentist but frequently materially add to the pain and suffering of a patient.

It is therefore another object of the invention to increase the facilities of the dental tray without adding obstructions and bulk which will interfere with the movements of the user.

A feature of the invention is the increase of storage facilities of a dental tray without a material reduction of the area of its working surface.

Another feature of the invention is the arrangement of the supporting flanges by which the device is supported in a plane with or below the dental tray without obstructing the working surface of the tray.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction, a combination, and arrangement of parts, which will be fully set forth in the following specification, claims and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a dental tray showing the attachment in place.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary sectional view on an enlarged scale through the tray and the attachment,

Figure 3 is a fragmentary view in elevation of the inner side of the attachment showing one method of securing the parts together,

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view in elevation of the outer side of the attachment showing the drawer suspension,

Figure 5 is a plan view of a tray of modified construction, and

Figure 6 is a sectional view on an enlarged scale through Figure 5.

Referring to the drawings the dental tray 10 is supported in the customary manner upon a bracket 11 carried by a standard 12.

The tray attachment designated generically by the numeral 13, comprises two semi-circular body members 14 and 15. The member 14 is preferably formed in its upper side with elongated arcuate recesses forming pockets 16 for the storage of absorbent cotton and the like. The member 15 is provided with a multiplicity of circular recesses which open through its upper side and form sockets 17 for holding bottles containing medicine or the like.

Each body member is provided at its inner upper edge with a supporting flange 18 for engagement over the peripheral edge of the dental tray 10. Spaced below the supporting flange 18 is a cooperating flange 19 which engages the under side of the tray, and it will be noted that at no point does the upper face of either section project beyond more than slightly the upper edge of the rim of the tray 10. Thus obstruction of the working surface of the tray is avoided.

Formed on the under side of the member 14 is a plurality of depending radially disposed guides 20 provided adjacent the point where they join the body member with grooves 21 for the reception of the guide flanges 22 at the upper side edges of sliding drawers 23.

Carried adjacent the rear ends of each drawer 23 and extending outwardly from

opposite sides thereof are stop pins 24 which engage behind depending stops 25 and 26 formed at the inner and outer ends of the guides 20 above described. It is to be understood that while the drawers are shown as being carried by the body member 14 only, it is to be understood that both body members or either of the body members may be so equipped or if preferred the drawers may be eliminated altogether without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

In the structure previously described the semi-circular body members are preferably formed of a rigid not elastic substance such as wood or porcelain enamelware and consequently some means for securing the parts together at their abutting ends is necessary. Such a means is illustrated in Fig. 3 and constitutes a hook 27 pivotally mounted as at 28 and adapted to engage a pin 29 on the cooperating body member. Any other desirable securing means may be provided however which will prove satisfactory in operation.

In the modification illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6 the body 30 is formed of a single body member 31 of a yieldable elastic substance such as rubber or the like and like the body members 14 and 15, this body is provided at its upper inner edge with an inwardly extending annular flange 32 which cooperates with a spaced inwardly extending annular flange 33 in supporting the device in position for the dental tray.

In order to assist in holding the body 30 in embracing position on a tray reinforcing members preferably formed of spring metal such as wires 34 are embedded in the body and coact with the elasticity thereof in firmly holding the same in embracing position. Like the body 13 the body 30 is provided in its upper face with a plurality of recesses and sockets for the purposes previously described.

It is obvious that due to the position of the flange 32 relative to the body 30 no part of the body projects more than slightly above the upper edge of the rim of the tray so that interference with the working surface thereof is avoided, and yet facilities are provided which will materially increase the storage capacity of the tray and place within easy reach of the user any one of many items which may be required during the attendance upon a patient.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred embodiment of this invention it is to be understood that minor changes in the details and construction, combination and arrangement of parts, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

I claim:

1. A dental tray attachment comprising a ring-shaped body adapted to embrace a dental tray, and shaped to be supported thereon, the body having receiving recesses therein.

2. A dental tray attachment comprising a body adapted to embrace a dental tray, and a supporting flange for engagement with the tray, said body having one or more recesses closed at the sides and bottoms and open at the tops therein.

3. A dental tray attachment comprising a body adapted to embrace a dental tray and flanges engaging the top and bottom sides of said tray, said body having one or more recesses closed at the sides and bottoms and open at the tops therein.

4. A dental tray attachment comprising a body adapted to peripherally embrace a dental tray and inwardly extending supporting flanges embracing the peripheral edge of said tray, said body having one or more recesses closed at the sides and bottoms and open at the tops therein.

5. A dental tray attachment comprising a pair of body members held in embracing position about a dental tray, said members having one or more recesses with closed bottoms and sides and open at the tops therein.

6. A dental tray attachment comprising a pair of body members held in embracing position about a dental tray and a supporting flange on each member for engagement with the tray, said members having one or more recesses with closed bottoms and sides and open at the tops therein.

7. A dental tray attachment comprising a pair of body members held in embracing position about a dental tray and a pair of inwardly extending supporting flanges embracing the peripheral edge of said tray, said members having one or more recesses with closed bottoms and sides and open at the tops therein.

8. A dental tray attachment comprising a pair of substantially semi-circular body members held in embracing position about a dental tray and a supporting flange on each member for engagement with the tray, said members having receiving recesses therein.

9. A dental tray attachment comprising a pair of substantially semi-circular body members held in embracing position about a dental tray, each body member having recesses in its upper side to provide receptacles, and spaced supporting flanges on each body member to embrace the peripheral edge of the tray.

10. A dental tray attachment comprising a pair of substantially semi-circular body members held in embracing position about a dental tray, each of said body members having sockets and recesses in its upper side,

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inwardly extending spaced supporting flanges embracing the peripheral edge of the tray, and drawers slidable on the under sides of the body members.

upper face of said tray, the body having receiving recesses therein.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing<sup>10</sup> as my invention, I have signed my name hereto.

5 11. A dental tray attachment comprising a body supported by a dental tray with the bottom of the body below the plane of the

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