

June 7, 1938.

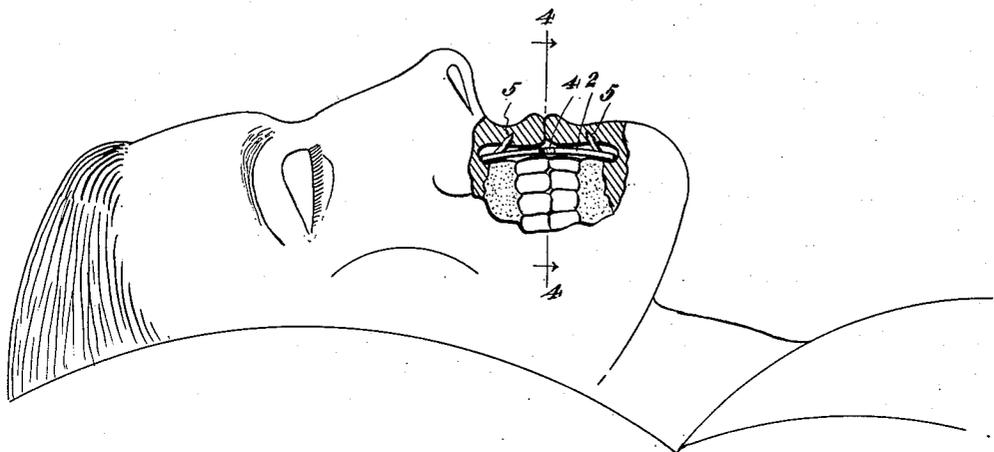
R. R. DIVEL

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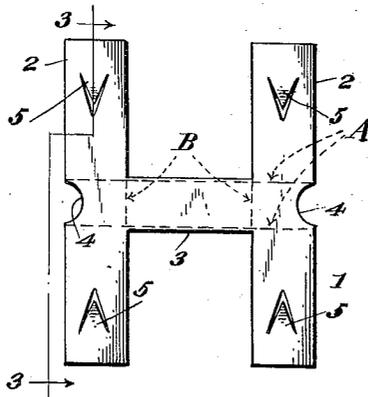
CLOSER FOR THE LIPS OF A CORPSE

Filed July 30, 1937

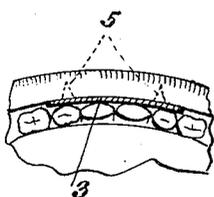
*Fig. 1.*



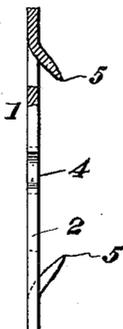
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 3.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,120,143

## CLOSER FOR THE LIPS OF A CORPSE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 27-1)

This invention relates to a lip closer.

An object of the invention is the construction of a simple and efficient device to hold the lips of a corpse in a closed position, whereby the lips are retained in a proper condition for giving an excellent expression.

Another object of the invention is the construction of a device which can be easily placed in the mouth of a corpse, between the teeth and the lips, to cause a proper set to the jaw and expression to the lips.

A still further object of the invention is the construction of an H-shape lip closer provided with lip-engaging means, which closer is comparatively inexpensive to manufacture and easily placed in an excellent operating position on the corpse.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention comprises certain other novel constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a sectional view of the mouth of a corpse, showing the lip closer in position therein.

Figure 2 is an enlarged plan view of the device.

Figure 3 is a view taken on line 3-3, Fig. 2, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on line 4-4, Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawing by numerals, 1 designates the flat H-shape lip closer as a whole, which can be formed of any suitable material. The device 1 comprises two parallel side units 2 which are integrally connected by a bridge or center unit 3. The side units 2 are provided with side notches 4; each notch 4 is substantially as wide as the width of the center unit 3, to facilitate the transverse bending of the entire device, especially the side units 2, along the transverse dotted lines A. This bending takes place when the device is placed in the mouth of the corpse, as shown in Figure 1, whereby the device admirably fits in place. The device is bent longitudinally along lines B, whereby the device fits the curvature of the teeth, as indicated in Fig. 4.

Each side unit 2 is provided near its ends with

inwardly extending prongs 5; in other words, these prongs 5 are arranged on each side unit in sets, with their points extending towards each other, so as to penetrate or "hook" the lips of the corpse and hold them together in a very satisfactory manner.

This simple and efficient device not only holds the lips of the corpse in a satisfactory closed position, but it holds the jaws properly, whereby a perfect and natural appearance is obtained of the lips and mouth of the corpse.

By the use of this device tying or sewing of any part of the mouth or the lips of a corpse is obviated, as well as the use of separate pieces on each body.

While I have described the preferred embodiment of my invention and illustrated the same in the accompanying drawing, certain minor changes or alterations may appear to one skilled in the art to which this invention relates during the extensive manufacture of same, and I, therefore, reserve the right to make such changes or alterations as shall fairly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A normally flat closer for the lips of the mouth of a corpse, comprising a single piece of material, provided with elongated side portions bridging across the mouth opening and contacting the upper and lower lips, a connecting portion normally positioned at the mouth opening and joining said side portions, and prongs near the ends only of each side portion adapted to engage the inner sides of the lips of a mouth.

2. A normally flat closer for the lips of the mouth of a corpse, comprising a single piece of material, provided with elongated side portions bridging across the mouth opening and contacting the upper and lower lips, a connecting portion normally positioned at the mouth opening and joining said side portions, said side portions provided in their outer edges with notches registering with said connecting portion, whereby the closer may be readily shaped to fit the individual mouth in which it is placed, and said side portions also provided with lip-attaching means.

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