Feb. 22, 1927. 1,618,475

A. R. L. READ

TOOTHBRUSH

Filed Oct. 5, 1925

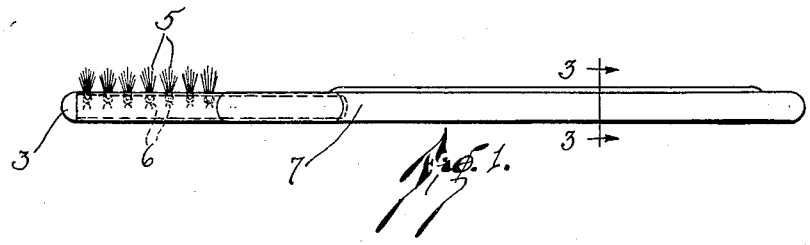


Fig. 1.

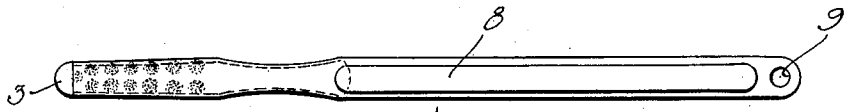


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

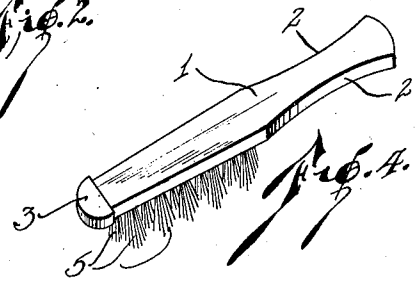


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOOTHBRUSH.

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My invention relates to improvements in tooth brushes, and it consists in the combinations, constructions, and arrangements herein described and claimed.

An object of my invention is to provide a tooth brush of the character described which may be manufactured with very little cost so that the tooth brushes may be placed in a vending machine, together with a small amount of tooth paste or the like, and dispensed at a cost of five or ten cents. Thus, the vendee after using the brush may well afford to discard the brush. It will be apparent therefore that I have provided a tooth brush which may be marketed in the manner described in Pullman trains, hotel wash rooms, or any other place occupied or frequented by travelers.

A further object of my invention is to provide a tooth brush of the character described in which novel means is provided for reenforcing the bristle bearing portion of the brush against movement with respect to the handle member.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, and the novel features of the invention will be particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming part of this application, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of an embodiment of my invention,

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the brush illustrated in Figure 1,

Figure 3 is an enlarged sectional view along the line 3—3 of Figure 1, and

Figure 4 is an enlarged perspective view of the bristle bearing portion of the brush.

In carrying out my invention I make use of a bristle bearing portion 1 which is made of highly pressed papier-mâché, paper board, fiber, or similar light and relatively cheap material. This bristle bearing portion has arcuate opposed indentations 2 on the side walls thereof forming a neck portion and an enlarged head portion 3 at the outermost end, presenting a smooth curved surface.

Bristles 5 are embedded in the member 1 by the provision of wire anchors 6. This embedding of the bristles is performed in any suitable manner.

An elongated tubular shell 7 slit throughout its length is formed of papier-mâché, paper board, compressed paper or fiber board in proper dies so as to encompass at its outermost portion the member 1, all save the portion 3 of the member 1. Thus the member 1 is securely supported at the outermost end of the tubular shell 7. The shell 7 has a longitudinally extending rib portion 8 for reenforcing the shell so that the likelihood of the shell breaking at the handle portion, i. e., that portion not occupied by the member 1, is reduced to a minimum.

The shell 7 is provided with an opening 9 therethrough by means of which the tooth brush may be supported upon a hook or the like. The portion 3 is sufficiently larger than the major portion of the member 1 so as to cause the outermost surface of the shell 7 to lie contiguous with the outer surface of the portion 3. This produces a pleasing unbroken appearance to the head portion of the tooth brush and eliminates sharp projections which might lend discomfort to the user of the device.

It will be noted that the indentations 2 provide a neck portion, as stated. This neck portion permanently holds the head 1 in position so as to prevent it from disengagement from the shell.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood. It is apparent from the construction of my improved tooth brush that it may be manufactured at an extremely low cost and therefore may be vended for five or ten cents. This will enable the traveler who, through some inadvertence, happens to find himself without a tooth brush to purchase one at a cost so low that he may discard it after it has been used.

The construction of the handle member 7 is such as to prevent the member from breaking unintentionally while in use as the rib 8, together with the tubular construction thereof, lends a high degree of rigidity to the member. The provision of the solid member 1 within the outermost portion of the handle shell 7 provides a solid bedding for the bristles and also a suitable foundation for the tubular member 7 so that the member 7 is less likely to spread by virtue of its split construction which is necessary since the member 7 is constructed of sheet

papier-mâché, pressed paper board, or fiber formed in suitable dies.

I claim:

A tooth brush of the character described comprising a bristle bearing body member having an indented neck portion, and a slit tubular shell having a portion thereof partially encompassing said body member and extending into close engagement with the indented neck portion for preventing the disengagement of the body member from the handle.

AUGUSTUS R. LEE READ.