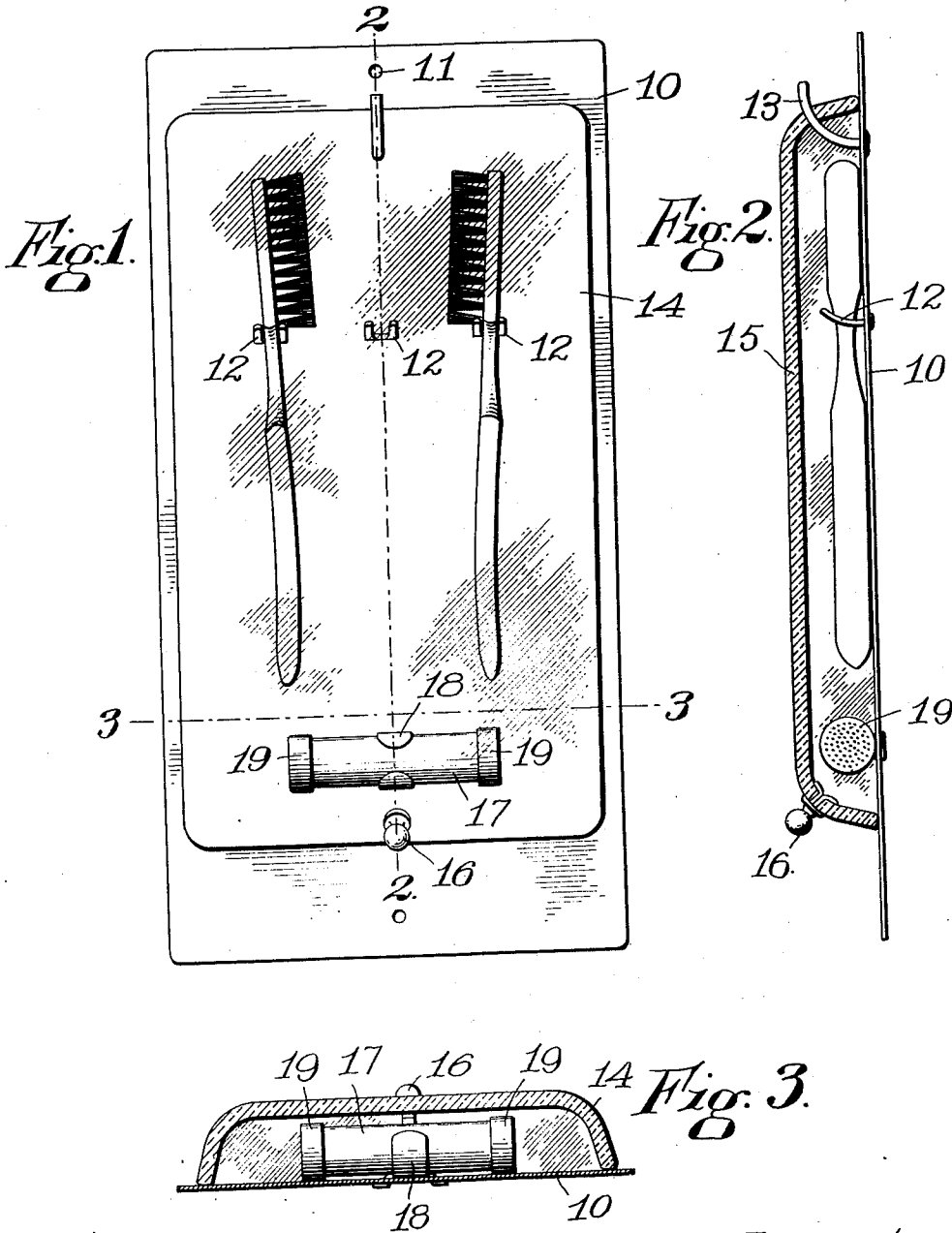


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 SANITARY TOOTH BRUSH HOLDER.
 APPLICATION FILED JULY 24, 1911.

1,049,654.

Patented Jan. 7, 1913.



Witnesses.

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SANITARY TOOTH-BRUSH HOLDER.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 7, 1913.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM O. BLOOM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Sanitary Tooth-Brush Holder, of which the following is a specification.

The principal objects of this invention are to provide a device of this character in which the tooth brushes can be conveniently supported and easily removed and in which they can be subjected constantly to the action of formaldehyde or other disinfectant while in the holder; also to provide a construction in which the full advantage of the sterilizing properties of sunlight can be utilized.

The invention also involves improvements in details of construction as will appear hereinafter.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings in which,

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a tooth brush holder constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

The device is intended to be hung up on a vertical wall preferably in the direct sunlight. For this purpose a rear plate 10 is provided having a perforation 11 at the top so that it can be hung on a nail or hook. This plate is provided at convenient elevation with a plurality of pairs of prongs 12 for supporting tooth brushes against the surface of the plate 10. It is also provided above these prongs with a hook 13 curved upwardly. On this hook is supported a cover plate 14 having a flat front wall 15 and side and end walls extending from it. By this arrangement it will be seen that the front plate can be supported against the back plate and will hang down therefrom in contact with it all around at its edges. At the same time when it is desired to raise the front plate, this can be done by grasping a knob 16 at the bottom thereof and swinging it upwardly about the hook 13. Ordinarily, to remove or replace a tooth brush this plate is swung up part way only, but when it is desired to remove the plate it is simply swung off the end of the hook. This permits the two parts of the tooth brush holder to be entirely separated so that both can be cleaned thoroughly.

At the bottom of the holder and mounted

on the back plate 10 is a container 17 for formaldehyde or other disinfectant. I prefer to fill this holder with a mixture of formaldehyde and borax so that the formaldehyde may be kept as dry as possible and in condition for giving off the fumes which arise and act on the tooth brushes to disinfect them. This holder is shown as of cylindrical form held by metallic clips 18. It is arranged in horizontal position and provided with caps 19 having perforated ends for the escape of the vapor. It will be seen that this is arranged in convenient position to be recharged or removed and directly under the brushes so that the fumes will act upon them most efficiently. At the same time the bristles of the brushes are arranged near the top of the container where the fumes will tend to remain so that the bristles are acted upon at all times.

Another important feature of this invention consists in the utilization of the sunlight to a maximum extent for the purpose of assisting in sterilizing the brushes. It is for this reason that the cover plate 15 is formed of light-transmitting material. It is preferably formed of transparent glass. With this arrangement (it being understood that the device is to be hung in the direct sunlight whenever possible) the sunlight is transmitted directly to the brushes and in addition thereto, the front face of the plate 10 is made of reflecting material, as for example, highly polished metal. This reflects the rays of light which strike it. Therefore the rays of light which are not intercepted by the brushes as they pass toward the plate 10 are thrown back so that a portion of them will act on the rear surfaces of the brushes with substantially the same efficiency as they would if acting directly upon them. In this way the sunlight acts upon all the surfaces of the brushes and thus the efficiency of the device for this purpose is very great. This effect is secured also in undiminished degree even when the light strikes the holder at an angle. This is very important because, as is well known, the direct rays of sunlight have a very great value for sterilizing purposes.

Although I have illustrated and described a preferred embodiment of the invention, I am aware that modifications can be made therein by any person skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the

invention as expressed in the claims. Therefore, I do not wish to be limited to all the details of construction herein shown and described, but

5 What I do claim is:—

1. As an article of manufacture, a tooth
brush holder comprising a flat rear sup-
porting plate having a reflecting front sur-
face and constructed and adapted to be hung
10 in vertical position, said plate being pro-
vided with means projecting therefrom for
supporting tooth brushes along its front
face, and a cover of light-transmitting ma-
terial having a plane front wall and side
15 and end walls projecting therefrom into
contact with the back plate, said back plate
having means located above the brush sup-
porting means for removably supporting
the front plate.

20 2. As an article of manufacture, a tooth
brush holder comprising a rear plate con-

structed and adapted to be hung in vertical
position on a wall and provided with means
for supporting tooth brushes, and with an
upwardly curved hook above them, and a 25
front plate having a plane front wall and
provided with end and side walls extending
therefrom, the end wall at the top and front,
being provided with a perforation spaced
from the edge thereof for receiving said 30
hook and the bottom end wall with a pro-
jecting handle, whereby the front plate is
supported by the hook and can be swung
upwardly along the hook by means of the
handle to expose brushes behind it.

35 In testimony whereof I have hereunto set
my hand, in the presence of two subscribing
witnesses.

WILLIAM O. BLOOM.

Witnesses:

ALBERT E. FAY,

CATHARINE IMELDA HARTNETT.