Nov. 28, 1944. H. J. ROTHMAN 2,363,997

ARTIFICIAL TOOTH DISPLAY CARD

Filed Aug. 21, 1942

Fig. 1.

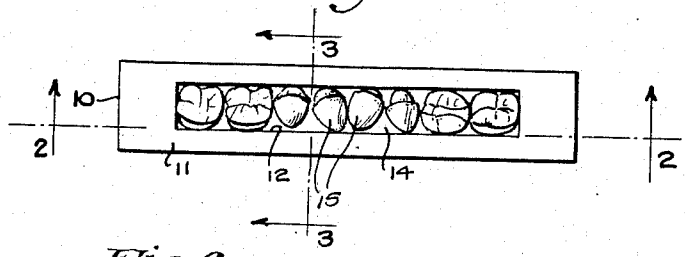


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

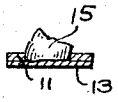


Fig. 4.

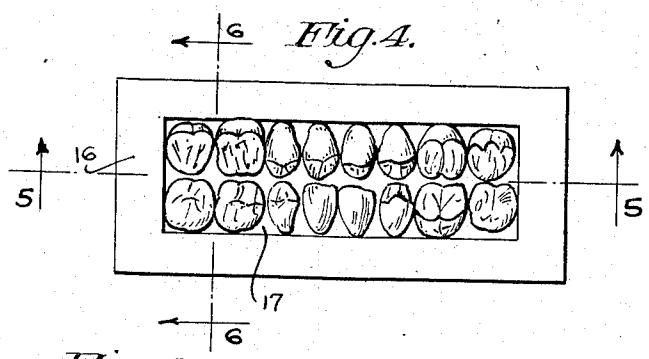


Fig. 5.

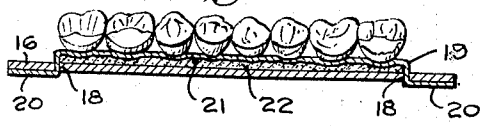
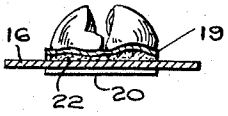


Fig. 6.



Inventor

HERMAN JOSEPH ROTHMAN

By Leon Edelson

Attorney.

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ARTIFICIAL TOOTH DISPLAY CARD

Herman Joseph Rothman, Springfield, Pa., assignor to Universal Dental Company, Philadelphia, Pa., a corporation of Pennsylvania

Application August 21, 1942, Serial No. 455,652

1 Claim. (Cl. 206—83)

This invention relates to carding devices for artificial teeth and more particularly to an improved construction of a display mount for such teeth upon which the same may be displayed to best advantage.

Among the principal objects of the present invention is to provide a display mount which is exceedingly simple and inexpensive in construction, and which is particularly adapted to receive and retain firmly in position most, if not all, of the various types of pinless artificial teeth.

Heretofore and prior to the present invention, artificial teeth have been mounted upon display cards either by embedding them in a foundation of wax supported by the card or by securing them to the card by fine wire thread or the like laced through the teeth and the card. The use of this wire as the supporting medium for the teeth has been generally employed in the case of the so-called pinless teeth, the latter being provided with perforations through which the supporting wire is threaded for securing the same to the card. Usually, a single length of securing wire is employed to fasten an entire row or even several rows of teeth to the card, thus rendering it impracticable to readily remove a single tooth from the card as desired. Not only is this scheme of wiring the pinless teeth to the card rather impractical and quite inconvenient to the person who is required to remove one or more teeth from the card, but it is also relatively expensive and time-consuming from the standpoint of the manufacturer. Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to obviate these difficulties by providing a display card having means thereon for adequately securing the pinless type teeth removably in position without the use of retaining wires and so eliminating the necessity of providing the teeth with wire-receiving perforations.

A further object is to provide a card mount for artificial teeth wherein the use of wax, which readily softens and becomes sticky in warm temperatures, is dispensed with as a bedding for the tooth and instead an adhesive surface is provided which is less subject to temperature variations and so insures adequate adhesion of the tooth upon the mount under all climatic conditions.

Still other objects and advantages of the invention will appear more fully hereinafter, it being understood that the present invention consists substantially in the combination, construction, location and relative arrangement of parts, all as described hereinafter, as shown in the drawing and as finally pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawing, which is illustrative of certain preferred embodiments of the present invention, Figure 1 is a plan view showing a set of artificial teeth disposed upon a display mount constructed in accordance with and embodying the principles of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a plan view of a somewhat modified construction of the display mount enlarged in size to accommodate a double row of artificial teeth;

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 4; and

Figure 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Figure 4.

Referring now to the drawing and more particularly to Figures 1 to 3 thereof, it will be observed that the mount 10 generally consists of a substantially flat base member 11, the central portion of which is cut out to provide an opening 12 therein of generally rectangular shape. This base member 11 may be formed of any suitable material having the requisite strength and stiffness to enable it to be freely handled, a preferred material being cardboard because of its low cost and the ease with which it may be cut or stamped into shape, although other materials, such as sheet metal, compositions and the like, also may well be employed.

Secured to the under-surface of the base member 11 is a backing of adhesive tape 13, this backing being preferably of a size and shape corresponding to the size and shape of the cut-out member 11 so that upon assembly of the two parts they form in effect a laminated structure as shown in Figures 2 and 3. The adhesive tape 13 is applied to the base member 11 with its adhesive coating in contact with the under surface of the base member, the central portion 14 of the adhesive coating being exposed in the region of the opening 12 cut out of the base member 11. Thus, the adhesive coating serves not only to bind or cement the base 11 and tape 13 together, but also provides an exposed adhesive surface 14 for securing the teeth 15 in position as shown. The adhesive tape employed may be any of the many types at present commercially available, although the type which has been found most preferable is the fabric-backed adhesive tape such as is generally used for band-

ages. It will be understood, therefore, that the term "adhesive tape" as employed in this specification and in the appended claims is intended to include a tape of any suitable material, one surface of which is treated with an adhesive coating having the characteristic of remaining tacky for an indefinite period.

As will appear from the foregoing, in the display mount of the present invention, the adhesive or tacky area thereof is confined within the opening 12 of the member 11, the margin of the mount surrounding this area being of such ample proportions as not only to provide adequate space for noting thereon the mold and shade indicia and type of tooth displayed on the mount, but also to permit easy handling of the card for the purpose of removing or replacing a tooth as desired. Due to the fact that the portion of the tape which extends across the opening 12 in the mount has a certain amount of "give," the adhesive surface thereof, when the tooth is pressed thereon, conforms to the contour of the surface of the tooth in contact therewith and thus insures a firm retention of the tooth in position upon the mount.

By employing a member 12 of some degree of thickness, a pronounced marginal edge or shoulder may be provided about the central adhesive area to thereby provide, when the teeth are pressed into position as shown in Figures 1 and 2, an effect as though the teeth were embedded in the mount.

It will be understood, of course, that the size of the mount may be varied as desired to accommodate one or more rows of teeth and it is within the purview of this invention to construct the base member with a plurality of spaced adhesive zones or areas for respectively accommodating different sets of artificial teeth. As an example of one such modified construction, reference is had to Figure 4 wherein the base member 16 is substantially larger than that of the form shown in Figure 1 to provide an adhesive area 17 of a width sufficiently great to accommodate a double row of teeth.

In this modified construction the adhesive area may be formed in the manner hereinbefore described by providing the base member with a central opening and then applying adhesive tape 19 of suitable width to the under surface so as to expose through the opening the adhesive surface of the freely extending portion of the tape. Or, it may be formed as shown in Figures 5 and 6 by slitting the base member 16, as at 18—18 and then passing the opposite ends of the tape 19 downwardly through the slits 18—18 for securement to the under-surface of the member 16 as at 20—20. In such case, the intermediate portion 21 of the tape rests upon the upper surface of the member 16 with its adhesive coating uppermost and exposed for securement of the teeth thereto. In order to provide the portion 21 of the tape with sufficient "give" to conform it to the varying surfaces of the teeth when the latter are pressed into contact therewith, a resilient cushion or lining 22 of felt, rubber or other such material, may be interposed between the base member 16 and the adhesive tape 19.

It will be understood that the present invention is susceptible of changes and modifications which may be made from time to time without departing from the general principles or real spirit of the present invention and it is accordingly intended to claim the same broadly, as well as specifically, as indicated by the appended claim.

What is claimed as new and useful is:

A display mount for artificial teeth comprising a supporting member of relatively stiff material and a strip of adhesive tape secured thereto with its adhesive coating exposed throughout a limited area, and cushioning means interposed between the supporting member and the tape to provide the latter with a yielding surface which is locally conformable to the contour of the tooth surface pressed into contact therewith.

HERMAN JOSEPH ROTHMAN.