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P. B. ADAMS

2,112,007

ANCHORING MEANS FOR FALSE TEETH

Filed Jan. 16, 1937

Fig. 1.

Fig. 4.

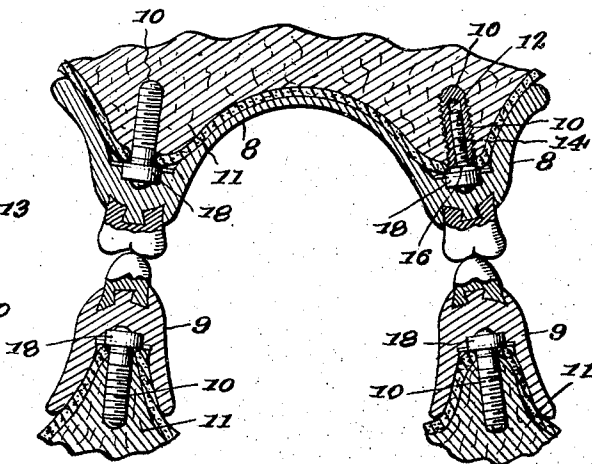
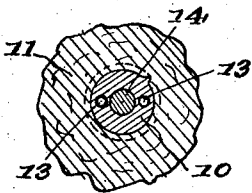


Fig. 7.

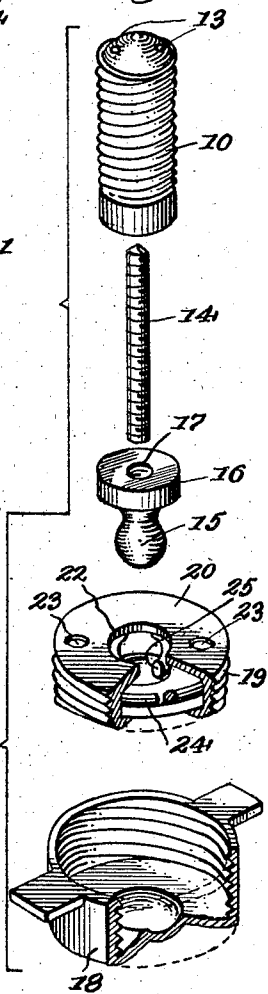


Fig. 2.

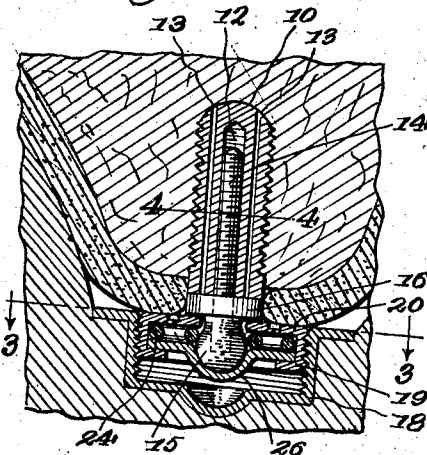


Fig. 3.

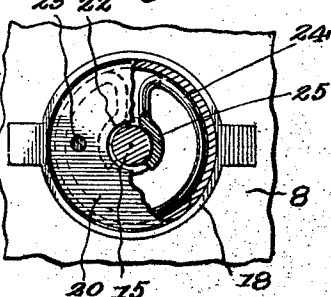


Fig. 5.

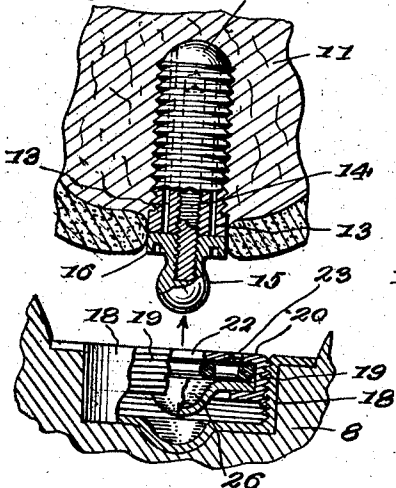
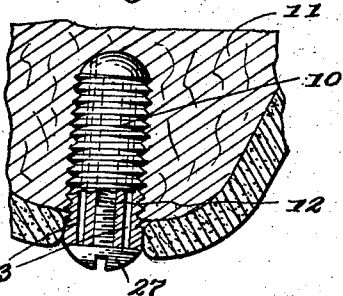


Fig. 6.



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ANCHORING MEANS FOR FALSE TEETH

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6 Claims. (Cl. 32-2)

The present invention relates to a device for holding false teeth in position in the mouth of the user, and more particularly to such a device that operates on the principle of a snap fastener.

The object of the invention is to provide such a device which will hold the plates securely, yet releasably in position.

Another object is to provide such a device that is simple in construction and easy to manufacture.

Still another object is to provide such a device having means for adjusting the position of the plate with relation to the jaw of the user.

Another object is to provide such a device in which the interior parts are enclosed and protected from moisture.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a sectional view showing upper and lower plates held in position by the device.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view showing the structure of the device in use.

Figure 3 is a plan view partly in section of the spring clip.

Figure 4 is a sectional view of the retaining thimble mounted in the user's jaw.

Figure 5 is a sectional view showing the structure of the device and the method of operation.

Figure 6 is a sectional view showing the temporary closure for the retaining thimble.

Figure 7 is a perspective view showing the different parts of the device disassembled.

Describing the drawing more particularly, the parts designated 8 and 9 are respectively upper and lower false teeth plates. In order to hold these in place the following structure is provided. A thimble 10, preferably made of silver, is exteriorly threaded, and is intended to be embedded in the jawbone 11 of the user. The thimble 10 is provided with a central threaded socket 12 and with one or more longitudinal drainage passages 13. The drainage passages are intended to allow drainage during the healing period, after the thimbles 10 have been inserted into the jawbone.

A threaded rod 14 is screwed into the socket 12 of the thimble and carries on its outward end a headed cap 15 having an enlarged shoulder 16. The cap 15 may be threaded to the rod by means of a socket 17. It will be seen by reference to Figures 2 and 5 that when the rod 14 and head 15 are assembled with the thimble 10, the shoulder 16 operates to close the drainage passages 13, and that the assembly provides a headed stud projecting below the jaw of the user.

The plates 8 and 9 are provided with spring clips which cooperate with the headed caps 15 and constitute snap fasteners. For cooperation with each one of the stud devices there is embedded in the plate an interiorly threaded socket 5 thimble 18. Adjustably threaded into each of these thimbles is a casing member 19 having a top wall 20 and a bottom wall 21. The top wall 20 has a central opening 22 of proper size to permit passage of the head of the cap 15, and to 10 be closed by the shoulder 16. Depressions 23 are provided in the top wall 20 to receive studs on a suitable implement for turning the casing in order to adjust its vertical position.

Within the casing 19 is mounted a circular 15 spring 24 having inwardly turned ends 25 to form a spring clip for engaging and releasably holding the headed cap 15. The bottom wall 21 of the casing has a depressed portion 26 to receive the end of the headed cap 15 for the purpose of 20 firmly supporting it.

In Figure 6 is shown a method of temporarily closing the stud-receiving socket 12 and the drainage passages 13 of the thimble 10. This is a headed screw 27 which is threaded into the socket 12 and which has a head large enough to cover 25 the openings of the passages 13. It is desirable to use this closure when for any reason the false teeth are not in position and also during the period after the thimble 10 has been inserted into 30 the jaw, during the healing process.

The drainage passages 13 are useful as sockets for cooperation with a suitable implement for turning the socket and threading it into the jawbone. 35

It will be seen from Figure 2 that when the false teeth are in place and the headed cap 15 is engaged with the spring 24, the device presents a completely water-tight exterior, the drainage passages 13 being closed by one side 40 of the shoulder 16 and the opening 22 being closed by the other side thereof.

The device has many advantages. It enables false teeth plates to be securely, yet removably held in position in the mouth of the user without discomfort, and enables plates without artificial palates and gums to be used. The threaded rod 14 and the cap 15 are adjustable relatively to each other and to the thimble 10, and the casing 19 is adjustable in the socket 18, thus 50 allowing adjustment to be made in case of shrinkage of the tissues of the gums, as well as when the device has first been installed. Due to the fact that the plates are supported upon the tissues of the jaw, there is no pressure incident 55

to chewing placed upon the fasteners. The device being completely enclosed in exteriorly smooth casings, is sanitary and easily cleaned, and affords no lodging places for bacteria. It is simple and relatively inexpensive to manufacture and may be easily disassembled for replacement or adjustment of any of its parts.

From the foregoing, it is thought that the construction, operation and many advantages of the herein described invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without further description and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. In a device for securing false teeth in place, a stud member and an interfitting socket member, and a mounting for one of the said members comprising an anchoring thimble for embedment in the jaw and having a central socket for receiving the member and a drainage passage through the wall of the thimble at the side of the socket.
2. In a device for securing false teeth in place, an anchoring thimble for embedment in the jaw and having a stud-receiving socket and a drainage passage, a stud mounted in the socket and having an enlarged shoulder closing the drainage passage.
3. In a device for securing false teeth in place, a fastener element for mounting in a set of

false teeth, comprising an interiorly threaded thimble for embedment in the set of false teeth, a casing having exterior threads engaging the threads of the thimble, a top wall having a central opening, and a bottom wall having a head-receiving socket, and a resilient clasp mounted in the casing for releasably engaging the head of a stud secured to the jaw of the user.

4. In a device for securing false teeth in place, a stud member comprising an anchoring thimble for embedment in the jaw and having a socket, a pin adjustably mounted in the socket, and a head adjustably mounted on the pin.

5. In a device for holding false teeth in place, the combination of an anchoring thimble for embedment in the jaw and having a drainage passage and a stud-receiving socket, a headed stud mounted in the socket and closing the drainage passage, and a spring socket cooperating with the stud and mounted in a plate of false teeth.

6. In a device for holding false teeth in place, the combination of an anchoring thimble for embedment in the jaw, and having a stud-receiving socket and a drainage passage, a headed stud mounted in the socket and closing the drainage opening, and a socket cooperating with the headed stud comprising a thimble for mounting in a set of false teeth, a casing adjustably mounted in the thimble, and a spring clip device mounted in the casing for releasably engaging the headed stud.

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